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THE SOUTHERNER VOL 74



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Photos by Gillian Borden

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THE THEME:

Continuum (noun):

A continuous thing, quantity, or substance; a continuous series of elements passing into each other.

How appropriate, then, to use this word in documenting a year in the life of the University of Southern Mississippi. Our hours, our days, our years and our lives are a continuous thing, a series of elements passing into one another. The choice to divide them into those hours, days, and years only serves to help us organize the past in our minds. Our moments and our lifetimes add to the continuum of Southern Miss, and one class seamlessly segues into the next.

This is not a book about beginnings, though there are a fair few contained in these pages. This isn't a book about endings, either, though they are certainly within as well. This book, *Continuum*, is dedicated to the very quality of continuity that defines us all. This is a book about motion and life, the journey that takes us from beginnings to endings. This is a book about in-betweens and under constructions, about progress and the very notion of becoming what you will be.

The Southerner Staff

CON TIN UUM

Photo by Kristi Brister





Continuum
Gillian Borden. Photos by
Freddie Lance Newman
and Gillian Borden

CONTINUUM

COMMUNITY



Photos by Freddie Lance Newman, Gillian Borden, and Samantha M. Light



ACROSS THE CENTURY

AN EAGLE'S EYE VIEW AT THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Southern Miss.

These words can be heard at any time and spoken in so many ways. They can be shouted at top of a fan's lung at Homecoming. They can be spoken softly about the campus and all the new and exciting changes going on—everything from intense research in polymer science to students winning prestigious national awards. They can be said with pride when our campus is being recognized for outstanding achievements from the baseball team making it to the College World Series to our academic programs hosting students from all fifty states and over seventy countries. You can feel the awe-inspiring dedication when Dr. Martha Saunders announces the receipt of a six million dollar donation to the university, or when our Gulf Coast campus is recognized for obtaining important research from the only buoy to survive Hurricane Katrina. When the words "Southern Miss" are spoken, it is always with an overwhelming sense of pride.

With a history of one hundred years of excellence, Southern Miss has come quite a way from its humble beginnings in 1910. Originally named "Mississippi Normal College," the university began as the first

state supported teacher-training school. The school that would be Southern Miss started with just five original buildings, 120 acres and a class of 227 students overseen by 17 faculty members. The landscape of the era was dominated by College Hall, which continues to serve as a main academic instruction building even today. Further north of campus stood the Presidents Home, which today is the Ogletree House and is home to the Southern Miss Alumni Association. Three other buildings—Forrest County Hall, the Industrial Cottage, and Hattiesburg Hall—were also included in the original construction of campus, establishing the architectural style that has persisted throughout our history: stately brick and columns.

In 1924, Southern Miss experienced its first name change to "States Teachers College." During this time, Southern Hall and the George Hurst Building were constructed. These buildings still stand today and endure the hustle and bustle of Southern Miss' growing population of roughly 16,000 students. Although times have changed since those early days, intelligent academic instruction remains the heart and soul of Southern Miss.

After hard times brought on by the Great Depression, Southern Miss began to make a name for itself with the football team. Originally formed in 1912 with just thirteen men, the team grew and began playing throughout the Gulf South area. Just as the university took to the gridiron, so too did the most iconic vision of Southern Miss arise: the Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building, better known as the Dome. The 'open-door' policy that our administration is famous for began during this time and has held true through the intervening years.

In 1940, Southern Miss underwent its second name change. "Mississippi Southern College," as it was then called, continued on with the growing tradition and made headlines when the football team completed their first undefeated season. In 1953, Mississippi Southern College went live with the WMS campus radio station, foreshadowing communication innovations throughout the university's lifetime. The ten watt station broadcasted campus updates and served as the precursor to our modern station, WUSM.

Story continues on next page



The Hub is plastered in campaign signs during the 1971 student elections.



The Hub as it appeared in the 1950s. During this era, a road ran right in front of the Hub, boasting some of the most coveted parking on campus.



The band of Mississippi Southern College poses for their 1962 yearbook photo.



The Clinic as it appeared in the 1960s. Fifty years later, little has changed: it still provides quality health care to ailing students.

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The 1960's threw Mississippi Southern College for a loop with another name change, cementing our identity as Southern Miss. The University of Southern Mississippi also experienced cultural uprising with the civil rights movement and the admittance of our first African American students. Today, Southern Miss is home to students from every background and is leading the way in cultural diversity, hosting students from Croatia to China and everywhere in between.

Southern Miss decided to expand its boundary lines in 1972 with the institution of the Gulf Park campus in Long Beach. Originally built as the Mississippi College for Women, the Gulf Park campus is now a flagship site for both marine research and media journalism.

The 1980's saw Southern Miss reorganized into the five academic colleges and also witnessed the creation of the International Programs office. Today, the

five academic colleges have flourished and expanded their purviews while the International Programs office has expanded to include a multitude of study abroad opportunities unequaled in the Gulf South.

Moving right along with the millennium, Southern Miss graduated its 100,000th student in 2000. In 2003, a campus-wide campaign helped shape our identity and gave Southern Miss athletics its current logo, Seymour in profile.

Today, the University of Southern Miss is famous for many things—being accredited in all areas of the arts, taking more students overseas to study abroad than almost any other university in the nation, and leading the way in curriculum diversity with over 90 degree options. Most importantly, Southern Miss has taken its history and its rich background and applied it to the future.

We are a university that is creative in how we instruct, how we function, and how

we making campus less of an institution and more of a home. We are bold in how we branch out to meet the needs of our students. We are determined to give back what our founders and alumni gave us—a strong beginning. Looking back as the university sits on the edge of its Centennial Celebration, the changes that have been wrought across the course of this century seem amazing. Even more important, though, is that the knowledge that the best is yet to come.

When you hear the words "Southern Miss," think of past, present and future. When you speak the words "Southern Miss," feel the love and dedication to this university run through your veins. We are all part of Southern Miss—a legacy of one hundred years of excellence with countless more still to come.

Story by Marie John
All Photos from McCain Archive

University of Southern Mississippi

April, 1962

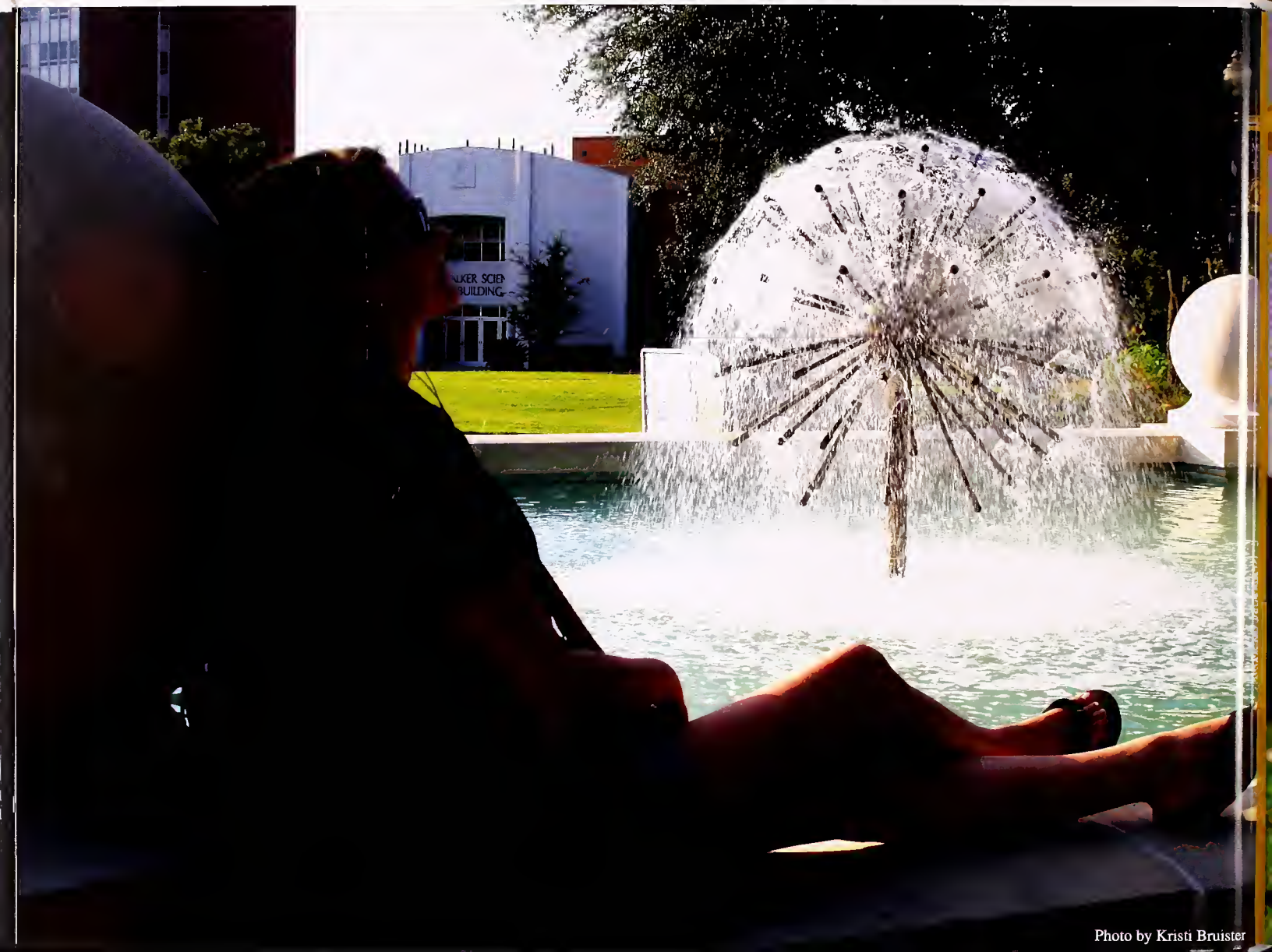




Photo by Erin Wojtala

summer

OMAHA BOUND:



The Golden Eagles returned to Hattiesburg with a stadium full of devoted fans after winning the 2009 Super Regionals in Gainesville, Florida.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

Eagles claim victory at 2009 Baseball Super Regionals

Entering a stadium for any sports event and leaving at the end of the game are two very different experiences. The rush of excitement during pregame will either match or be blown away by the tidal wave of excitement after a win or it will be destroyed by a gut-wrenching loss. These feelings simply magnify when those games become more and more high profile and that was the scene in the College World Series, which is exactly where our Golden Eagles Baseball Team found themselves for the first time ever this past summer.

Thinking back to last February, the Golden Eagles started their journey to the College World Series with an exhausting sixty-six games that went into the summer. Who is to say which of the players, the coaches, or any of the loyal fans in the stands could have guessed that this would be the year the guys would make it to the College World Series. But having a season that led them as far as it did proved the quality of talent Southern Miss has on the diamond. The baseball team was known for making it to the post season, but after the summer even the national media is taking a much more serious look at Southern Miss baseball.

It was your classic underdog tale from the start, with Southern Miss making the Super Regionals for the first time after making seven consecutive Regional

tournaments. This was particularly special for 12 year head coach Corky Palmer, who announced that the season was to be his last. Andrew Godbold, a senior history licensure major from Jackson, knows how important Palmer was to the program. "What Palmer did in his final season as head coach only solidifies his place in Southern Miss athletic tradition," said Godbold. "Coach Palmer is synonymous with Southern Miss baseball." After so much dedication to the Southern Miss baseball program, it was definitely a great way to send out the long time coach.

Ben Sutton, a junior journalism major and Hattiesburg native, is an avid fan of Southern Miss sports and can be seen at every sporting event—schedule permitting. You can usually notice him by his admittedly unusual attire: a banana suit. Ben was with his Golden Eagles all the way to Omaha, cheering as they beat Florida to qualify for the College World Series. "A World Series game is a completely different animal," said Sutton. "Every game becomes a really important one, and the team has worked really hard to get to where they are; there's definitely an emotional attachment to the game's events"

Story continues on the next page



(Top) Junior right fielder Taylor Walker dives into home plate for the score, after a pop fly from Corey Stevens.

Photo courtesy of Jay Bailey



(Right) Head coach Corky Palmer and wife Debbie embrace as the team is welcomed home on June 8th.

Photo courtesy of Jay Bailey



Out with a broken collar bone, senior shortstop, Brian Dozier had to give up his role on the field, but retained his spirit in the dugout as a team leader.

Photo courtesy of Jay Bailey

There and Back Again:

Golden Eagles make their way to College World Series

Todd McInnis, a senior business management major from Brandon, Mississippi, was a starting pitcher for the Golden Eagles this summer on their trek to Omaha. He pitched to a 7-4 record in the regular season, and led the Eagles over the Florida Gators in the Super Regionals. "Last year was a magical year for the Southern Miss baseball program," said McInnis. "It

was a great experience that none of us will ever forget."

For McInnis, it was an incredible experience to make it that far into the postseason. "I remember getting off the bus for the first time at Rosenblatt stadium. It was a magical experience seeing that statue that so many elite players and teams have touched."

In a season that meant so much, to not only the players and head coach Corky Palmer, but to the University itself, the Southern Miss baseball team established itself in the national scene, proving that Southern Miss isn't just a football school anymore.

Story by Jack Spitz and Alan Wheat



(Top) Head coach Corky Palmer and wife Debbie walk together after the Eagles lose their second straight game in Omaha, Nebraska. This was Corky's last game with the Eagles.

(Left) In sixty-six games, junior first baseman, Joey Archer batted for .306 with 62 RBI and 10 Home runs. The Golden Eagles finished 8th overall in the nation.

Photos courtesy of Photo Services

Senior outfielder Michael Ewing steps up to bat during their final game in the College World Series against North Carolina.

Photo courtesy of Photo Services



SUMMER PREVIEW

next year's nasty bunch

Preview at Southern Miss. It's about learning the Nasty Bunch cheer and making sure you don't schedule an eight o'clock class. It's about stepping on campus and knowing what an honor it is to be a Golden Eagle. It's a time when incoming freshmen and transfer students get to look at Southern Miss as a whole. They get to see all the activities that Southern Miss offers, how much current students truly love their Black and Gold, and how they can start getting involved. Stepping on campus might be overwhelming to some students, and so Preview helps them get a feel for what campus life will be like. Preview offers new Golden Eagles the opportunity to have campus and resident hall tours, as well as meet other new students in small group sessions.

Daniel Roberts, a transfer student from Collinsville, decided to come to Southern Miss for his last two years of undergraduate school. "I really looked forward to preview," the marketing major said. "Just walking around the campus was helpful in itself because I got a good idea for the layout. Before coming, I already knew I was going to be excited to get the school year started. Preview really helped out because before it I didn't know anyone and I didn't know anything about the campus. While at Preview I saw that I wanted to be involved with the Baptist Student Union and the Bass Fishing Club, I was able to meet people

from both organizations and they gave me some need-to-know information."

Adrianna Gordon, a nurse anesthetist major from Petal found the day to be both useful and fun. "Preview let me know how great a university this really is. There were people to assist me in anything I needed and that helped tremendously. I saw that I wanted to be involved in Student Government, Legacy, Greek Life, and several other organizations. Preview helped calm my worries about my transition into college."

Adrienne Ashley, a junior from Raleigh majoring in math, had her own thoughts about Preview at Southern Miss: "I was looking forward to Preview just because I had not toured the campus yet and getting to walk around and find the buildings helped." She also was ready to meet some fellow classmates. "I was looking forward to meeting new people during Preview. It's helped me to know more things about Southern Miss and know what's going on around campus."

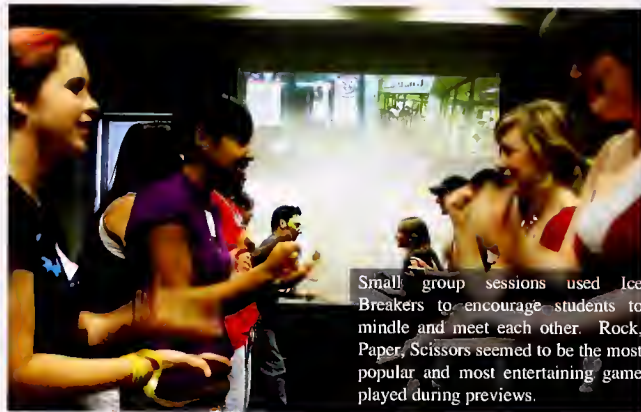
Story by Arielle Edwards
All Photos by Christopher Bostick



At the beginning of each preview, new students make their way to the check-in centers, where they were welcomed by Southern Miss. During their stay, Southern Miss led students in small groups to show them the true meaning of being a Golden Eagle.



Jayson Newell dances to "Swag Surfin," a popular summer anthem, to get the freshman excited about their upcoming year. These yellow jacket-wearing upperclassmen made it their goal to see that the new students felt welcome.



Small group sessions used Ice Breakers to encourage students to mingle and meet each other. Rock, Paper, Scissors seemed to be the most popular and most entertaining game played during previews.



Freshmen and transfer students, along with their parents, came to previews with questions for the very helpful Southern Style. Separate sessions are offered to meet the needs of students and parents.

Southern Miss Goes Abroad

Students experience Europe with the British Studies Program

ran from July 9th to August 9th. While there, students had the chance to study courses in sixteen different fields ranging from mass communication to sports management. With all these opportunities at your fingertips, who wouldn't want the chance to take the life-changing event of studying in England.

Of all the opportunities available to the students of Southern Miss, perhaps the most coveted and celebrated is the university's Study Abroad program, and it's flagship British Studies initiative.

While many students feel like they can't afford or don't have the time to consider study abroad, it is a singular opportunity to expand your world view. Being able to say that you've not only traveled to another country, but that you have studied there is quite a feat. Beyond that, you can say that you have held a daily life schedule that does not revolve around American standards, but rather international ones. Southern Miss offers seventeen different options when studying abroad. Some Golden Eagles returned this fall from England with the ever popular British Studies program.

British Studies has been offered here for the past 30 years. This year, the program

Kendrick Mosson, a senior double major in international business and marketing is from Greenville. While participating in the business class of British Studies, Mosson got the chance to learn the British economy firsthand. He argued that it was a long and arduous work day for him, being "in a suit from 8-5 nearly every day." Yet, around seven nearly every evening, he found himself "attending a musical, preferably *Wicked*." British Studies, he said, is a chance for students to learn firsthand cultural lessons. "What stuck out to me was the opportunity to meet and greet with major executives and professions with international companies. It was a great to not only hear some insight into their industries but also to hear what they look for in potential employees."

With that balance in mind, British Studies is known for having ample free time where students can travel across the width and length of Europe. Mary Vaughan, a junior from Clarksdale, enjoyed this newfound individuality.

"The freedom and responsibility is what stuck out the most. I was literally able to do what I wanted whenever I wanted to. I had the opportunity to go to places I had only read about, and I didn't have to wait around for someone to plan my excursions. I did it all by myself." All in all, every Golden Eagle will have the chance to fly, whether it be inside the city limits of Hattiesburg or over new international borders—but British Studies gives them the chance to soar to new heights.

Story by Jack Spitz

Photos by Christopher Bostick

Tasia Poyadou, Lauren Hilton, Suzanna Ellzey and Kellis McSparrin stand outside of Her Majesty's Theatre after watching a performance of Phantom of the Opera.

Photo Submitted by Suzanna Ellzey



Southern Miss students Melanie Brady, Stewart Gannmill, and Brittany Alexander smile for the camera as they sit at Trafalgar Square, one of the most iconic scenes of London life.

Photo Submitted by Noelle Alexander



Sorority Recruitment

Six Days of Stress for a Sisterhood of Success

Being in a sorority is not just about having fun; it's also about sisterhood, leadership, and becoming a part of something that you carry with you all your life. Sorority Recruitment at Southern Miss lasts six days, in which the girls try to figure out the sorority that fits them best. Going through each day, the potential new members, also known as PNM's, meet active members of the seven sororities. By the end of the week, each girl narrows down her top choice and begins a new chapter of her life as a member of one of the seven College Panhellenic Council organizations. With over three hundred girls coming through recruitment this year, Greek Life at Southern Miss is growing at an amazing rate.

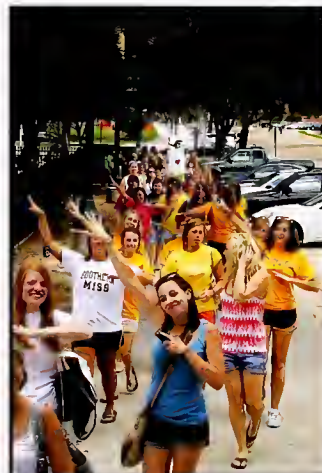
Katie Watson, a freshman marketing major from Ocean Springs, is a new Tri-Delta member. "Recruitment was a really fun experience," she says, "but also nerve-racking at the same time! I knew I had chosen the right house because I felt so welcome every time I walked in the door." She admits that the decision is a big one to make in only a week. "The most awkward thing about recruitment was that we had to tell our whole life story to girls we did not know in just a few short days."

Kappa Delta's Connie Coletta, a freshman nursing major from Gautier has some great memories from the week before school. "My favorite thing about recruitment

was becoming so close with all of the girls and Gamma Chi's on my floor. Recruitment made me feel stressed, but I had a blast and loved every minute of it. It was so stressful at times because I didn't know which house asked me back until I got to the Village and got my invite list...but it was one of the best experiences!"

During recruitment, each PNM is assigned a room in Wilbur Hall where they spent their free time between recruitment events. Each floor also housed two Gamma Chi's: sorority members that disaffiliate from their chapters for the week in order to provide unbiased advice for those undergoing recruitment. The Gamma Chi's decorated each floor so that when the PNM's came back from ranking their top house choice they would have something to make them smile. Delta Gamma's Mary-Margaret Halford, a political science major from Vicksburg, was on first floor south in Wilbur Hall. "I liked meeting girls that didn't end up in my sorority. I picked where I felt the most welcome and comfortable... and the Harry Potter Floor was magically walking ballin'." Whatever their decision, the girls left recruitment with fond memories and a growing sense of sorority.

Story by Arielle Edwards



The class of new members walks from the Payne Center to the Sorority Village after signing their bids. As they march on, the girls chant their chosen sorority cheers.

Photo by Calvin Wu

Junior K-J Lockley leads the chapter in a cheer outside the Chi Omega house. Chi Omega signed 37 new members on Girl's Bid Day.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Amber Langley and Farrah Brown lead Delta Gamma in a dance during Skit Day. The day is a chance to show a chapter's unique personality and flair.

Photo by Christopher Bostick





Phi Mu's greet their new sisters on Bid Day with gifts and hugs. After being welcomed, each chapter hosts a Bid Day party to celebrate its newest members.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

Southern Miss' go-to mic man J.P. pumps
up incoming freshman and transfer
students at the 2009 G.E.W.W.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



GOLDEN EAGLE WELCOME WEEK

THE FIRST DAYS OF A FRESH START

"GEWW was an experience of a life time...I loved meeting people," said Erick Weeks, a freshman theater major from Pearl. "My GEWW crew leaders were amazing, and the week as a whole gave me the opportunity to, as everyone says to throw away the 'cool card' and be myself. It was a blast." According to Director of First Year Experience Wynde Fitts, this is exactly what GEWW is supposed to do: "College is one of those places where you want people to connect."

GEWW, in many ways, represents what Southern Miss is all about: older students helping new, friendships being forged and Golden Eagles becoming a Southern Miss family. Like Southern Miss itself, GEWW is constantly changing and growing to meet the needs of the students who participate. "The possibilities are endless, but I see more technology and choice, tradition and spirit," Fitts said. No matter how GEWW changes, it will always continue

to help new students become part of the Southern Miss family.

In the shade of the Eagle Walk, new Southern Miss students, dripping in gold paint, swarm the showers. Among the mass of laughter and conversation, Will Owens, an exercise science major from West Point can be heard chanting, "Southern Miss to the top!" He, along with every other new Southern Miss student, has finished painting the Eagle Walk, the culminating event of Golden Eagle Welcome Week, otherwise known as GEWW. "My favorite part was painting the Eagle Walk," Owens said, "It's been three weeks and I'm still finding paint on my body."

Premiere, the forerunner to GEWW, began in 2001 as a way to acquaint new students to life at Southern Miss. GEWW in its current state began three years later in 2004, but even now, it's constantly evolving. While GEWW heavily emphasized school spirit and required events in the past, Wynde Fitts explained

how GEWW has been reorganized to meet the interests of Southern Miss's diverse student body.

"We diversified a lot more," she says, "we tried to cut down on requirements and offer more choices. We had arts events, recreational sports, and took a trip to the Bottling Company on Sunday." While GEWW offers a chance for new students to get acquainted to Southern Miss, students of all levels get involved.

Stacey Ahua, a speech communications and Spanish double major from Hattiesburg, served as a GEWW Crew leader and a member of Southern Style and is now a member of the Golden Eagle Welcome Week executive team. She credits her time on the GEWW Crew to helping her feel comfortable at Southern Miss: "I found my place at Southern Miss by meeting new students. It's great to keep in touch with people and we still joke about that week years later."

Story by Hannah Ryan





Will Owens screams "To the top!" while washing off the paint from the EagleWalk race.

Photo by Elizabeth Warshauer



John Doe rushes to finish painting his team's section of the Eagle Walk. This Southern Miss tradition has students employ their entire bodies in a frantic race to cover their section.

Photo by Calvin Wu



Photo by Calvin Wu

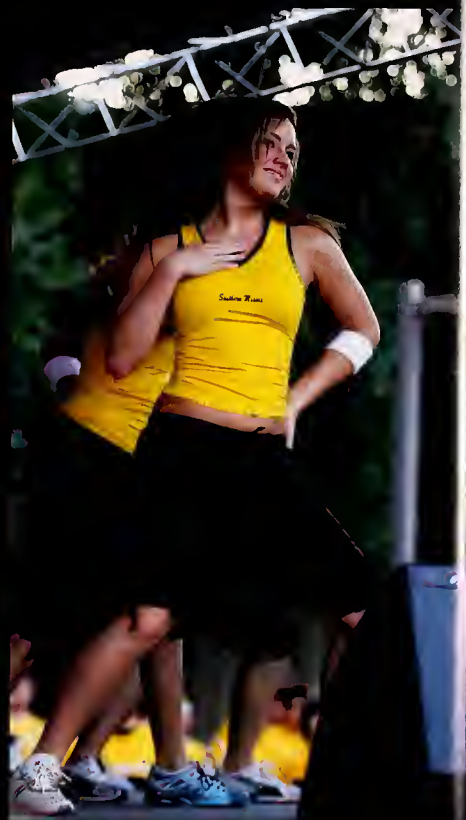
The stage of Bennett Auditorium is alight with enthusiasm as the QFW Crew spurs the new freshmen class into a frenzy.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Junior Kellie Oberkirch dances with her fellow Southern Misses at the first Friday Night at the Fountain of the year. This Friday Night at the Fountain was exclusively for new students.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Freshmen Anna Cubbage is head-over-heels during GEWW's Talents Night. Her routine earned her second place overall in the competition.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Freshman Rebecca Scroggs dances boldly during Chill Night. Chill Night's dance floor invited the bravest Eagles to show their stuff at the Powerhouse.

Photo by JaVokco Harris



Sophomore and GEWW CREW leader Zurick Thomas rocks the stage after his small group won the overall best team during the week.

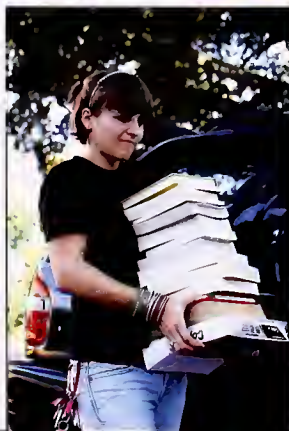
Photo by Christopher Bostick





Freshman Allie Soloman sorts through all of her things before moving into the freshman quad. This year, the quad houses all freshman females.

Freshman Amanda Paris carries books to the curb outside of Mississippi Hall. Many new students often find that they've under- or overpacked, especially if coming from far away.



MOVE-IN DAY

golden eagles settle in for a successful semester

From the first football game of the season to Friday Night at the Fountain, there are many occasions that send an air of nostalgia wafting through Southern Miss's campus, but none can bring so many memories as Move-In Day. Senior psychology major Brittany Purvis from Mobile, Alabama returned for her third year on duty as a Resident Assistant and knows the moving process well. "Move-In is always exciting," says Purvis. "It always brings back memories of freshman year. Everything's exciting and new and you're getting to know all these new people."

Move-In Day is coordinated each year by the Office of Student Activities, with the invaluable assistance of the Campus Police Department and Parking Management. Many other student organizations send volunteers to help the incoming students. Freshman Sarah Motes from Meridian appreciated the help from the volunteers. The speech pathology major admits to a little over packing, but was thankful for having a helping hand (or ten). "Some of the football players help carry my bigger stuff and my RA showed me how to set up my room in Wilbur to give me the most storage space...it helped so much."

Sarah, along with all the other residents moving in, will embark on an exciting adventure into new lives as Golden Eagles, but they must first fight the battle before winning the war. A first time patriot to the Move-In Day scene is freshman Amanda Paris, a history major from Brandon. She reflects on her move

in experience fondly. "Everything went really smoothly. My favorite part was probably getting all my stuff where I wanted it," she says. Living on campus seemed like the best option for Paris. "It's a community, I guess, and so you're more focused on school and not outside things."

Timothy Finnigan, a senior broadcast journalism major from Satsuma, Alabama, knows firsthand the struggle involved with Move-In Day. Because of this, he and his fraternity brothers opted to help incoming freshman move in for the first time. "I wanted to be one of those people to reach out to the others because they did it for me. Why not do it for someone else?" Besides using the opportunity to make people feel welcome, he also suggests that the process can serve another purpose. "Move-In Day is a primetime for organizations to get their name out there. There can be no doubt that students remember the names of the organizations who volunteer their time each year to help ease the Move-In Day burden."

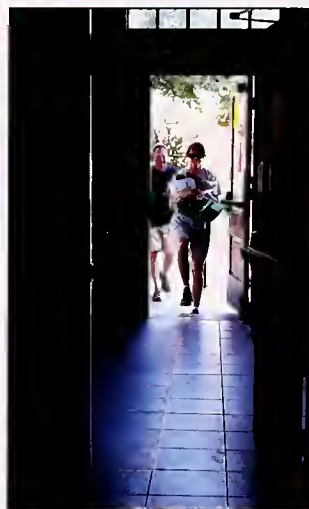
Though it only comes around once a year, it brings back memories that last throughout one's collegiate career. This common feat is not just a chore but an experience that introduces new friends, reunites old friends, and reminds all that they are a part of the Golden Eagle family at Southern Miss.

Story by Divah Griffith

All Photos by Kayla Rutledge

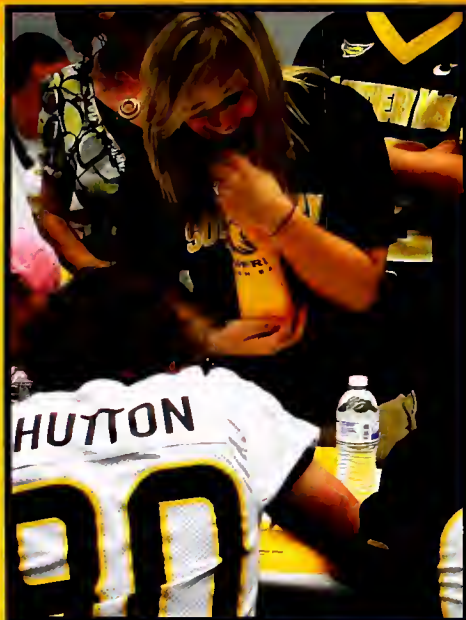


Above: Two volunteers work together to maneuver an unruly area rug up the stairs in Hattiesburg Hall.



Left: Audrey Charoglu, Assistant Director of Student Activities, helps students move into Mississippi Hall. Administration, faculty, staff and upperclassmen helped tremendously in moving in students around campus.

FOOTBALL FANFAIR



Freshman wide-reciever Ben Hutton of Madison, Mississippi, entertains a smiling fan. The Fanfair brought together athletes and their enthusiastic supporters.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Players at the Golden Eagles offense table autograph posters during the 2009 Fall Fanfair.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Sophomore quarterback Austin Davis speaks with a young Golden Eagle during the autumn event.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

President Martha Saunders and Frances Ogletree smile during the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the newly renovated and reopened Ogletree Alumni House.

Photo by Kayla Rutledge



Courtney Varhol, Stephanie Brauchle, and their fellow Gulf Coast students paint the rock on the north lawn of the Advanced Education Center. This year marked the first time the Gulf Park campus engaged in a GEWW of their own.

Photo by Ann Billings



Summer construction begins with summer destruction as crews begin the onerous process of leveling the old Commons. The area will be converted into an open green space in an effort to beautify the campus.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

SUMMER RECAP 37





Photo by Kristi Bruister

autumn

AUTUMN ART GALA



THE 2009 ART GALA WAS HELD ON OCTOBER 10, 2009.

Junior Katie Walker portrayed the Green Faerie during the 2009 Art Gala. Walker and other dancers roamed throughout the event rather than taking the stage.

Photo by Christopher Borick



Sophomore and music majoy Jonathan Brannan played Harry Zidler, the host and proprietor of the Moulin Rouge.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

nestled on the second floor of the Art Arts Building, a man sits in his chair, leaning towards a computer screen. He hasn't been there long: open boxes sit on the floor and papers litter the tabletops, as abstract painting hangs on the wall and pieces of memorabilia from the arts at Southern Miss. Operatic voices float from the speakers as Dr. Lopinto sits back, shakes his head, and hunches toward the computer screen. He knits his brow and, by the clicking of the mouse, makes some adjustments. Then, the voices come from the computer, slightly altered. Dr. Lopinto smiles and says, "It's it."

Dr. Mike Lopinto, the marketing director for the College of Arts and Letters, is the man in charge of organizing the 2009 Moulin Rouge Gala. "I call myself a hamum," he says, "because this was the greatest show on earth." The 2009 gala was the first year that included all arts departments: Art and Design, Music, and Theater and Dance. "It was very student focused," Dr. Lopinto says, "We had 514 student performers in an hour and a half."

For two intense weeks, students from the department of Art and Design, Music, Theater, and Dance worked around the clock

to be ready for the Moulin Rouge Gala, which took place in early September, but the gala has been planned for over a year.

Paul Williams, a junior music education major from Mobile, enjoyed his participation in the Moulin Rouge Gala: "I played the role of The Argentine this year in the gala, which was a very fun role to play. No one really gets The Argentine until he sings his song—Tango Roxanne—which allows him to express what he really feels inside about what love can do to a person. He has a lot of internal conflicts." Even though the Moulin Rouge Gala raises money—between twenty and thirty thousand dollars—for the arts at Southern Miss, the biggest benefit is increased awareness of the immense artistic talent at Southern Miss: "I don't think they realize the caliber of performance. Everybody was really spectacular," Williams says.

While the theme for the 2010 Gala has yet to be decided, the centennial of Southern Miss will certainly help set the new standard. With help from the surrounding community, gala organizers hope to reach new heights. "People have been really, really supportive," Dr. Lopinto says, "It will get bigger and better."

Story by Hannah Ryan

“...514 STUDENT PERFORMERS IN AN HOUR AND A HALF”



Brett Barnes portrayed Christian the young writer competing for Satine's affections.

Photo by Erin Wojtala

Senior Jose Cuellar, a member of the orchestra reacts with surprise. Even participants were often amazed by the talent offstage.

Photo by Erin Wojtala

FRIDAY NIGHT

MEET ME AT THE FOUNTAIN

The Friday night before every home football game, students gather in the front of Southern Miss' Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building to celebrate one of the most popular traditions on campus—Friday Night at the Fountain. With a location at the heart of campus and countless regional favorite bands like The Space Capones and Cayerio, FNATF can be heard from Hardy Street to Hillcrest Hall. The tradition of gathering students together to fire up spirit for the upcoming battle against another rival team the following day is how many Southern Miss students spend their Friday nights.

Thanks to the Southern Miss Activities Council, also known as SMAC, true Golden Eagle spirit can shine. Whether it is because of the cheerleaders, the Dixie Darlings, the Pride of Mississippi Marching Band, or the usual visit from Head Coach Larry Fedora, no student seems to leave the fountain in disappointment. Kristina Daniels, a transfer student from Wiggins and a music education major, loves how "...the Friday Night pep rally really hypes me up! I leave the fountain ecstatic for Saturday's home game."

Apart from local entertainment, SMAC has also brought in some well known faces, including that of Bobby Valentino, who appeared on stage to sing his widely known hit, "Ms. Officer." Cierra Clay, a freshmen microbiology major from Biloxi was quite impressed at the caliber of the artists during

this year's FNATF. "It was really cool to see an artist that I listen to on the radio standing right before my eyes. It was unreal!"

Stuart Evans, an Art major from McComb loves the "variety between pep rallies. I believe that SMAC does a great job in not only various events, but also in understanding that college students are all different and our music taste is unique. Recognition of that from SMAC is noticeable each and every week. They give us a different style of music to love a wide range of music taste ... [I'm] really impressed with them."

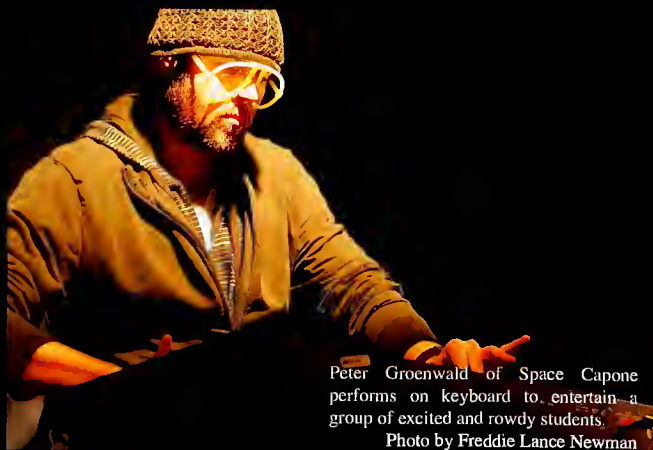
SMAC brings in a variety of additional entertainment choices: from the popular rival school t-shirt burning, where students bring in t-shirts from places like Ole Miss or LSU and watch them burn to receive a new Southern Miss shirt, or the popular human Velcro wall, where students suit up and take a dive to stick to the giant wall. Kristina Salomon, President of the Southern Miss Activities Council, admitted that his most rewarding feeling is seeing the thousands of people around the fountain and realizing that they are truly enjoying themselves. It really makes all of the hard-work worthwhile."

Story by Alexandria Atchinson



SMAC Graduate Assistant Logan Grubbs and member of the Legacy burn a rival team's shirt. The T-Shirt Burn is sponsored by the Legacy every year.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Peter Groenwald of Space Capone performs on keyboard to entertain a group of excited and rowdy students.

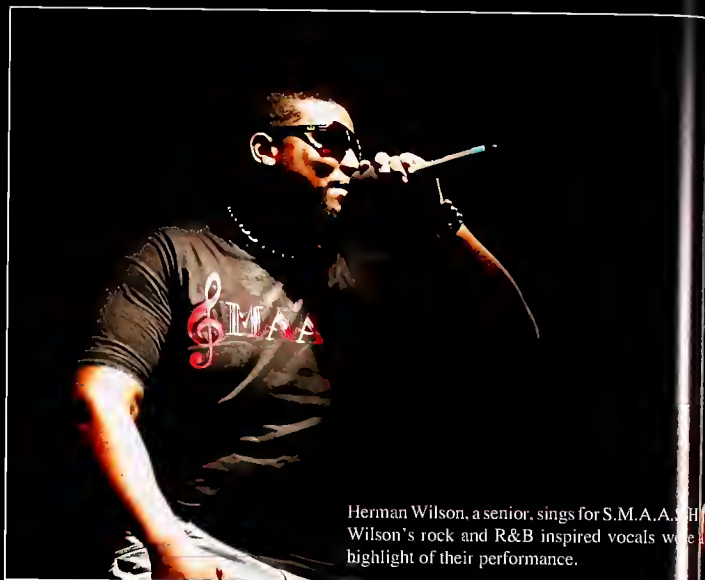
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



R&B singer Bobby Valentino headlined at Friday Night at the Fountain. His performance was greeted with thunderous applause from an eager crowd of students.

Photo by Samantha Yancey

Jerome Young, a Southern Miss alumnus, performed with S.M.A.A.S.H. at Friday Night at the Fountain. Started in 2005, S.M.A.A.S.H. is a home-grown act rooted in the Southern Miss campus.



Herman Wilson, a senior, sings for S.M.A.A.S.H. Wilson's rock and R&B inspired vocals were a highlight of their performance.



Junior Ari Vasquez dances on stage with the Dixie Darlings during a raucous performance. The Dixie Darlings perform at Friday Night at the Fountain.

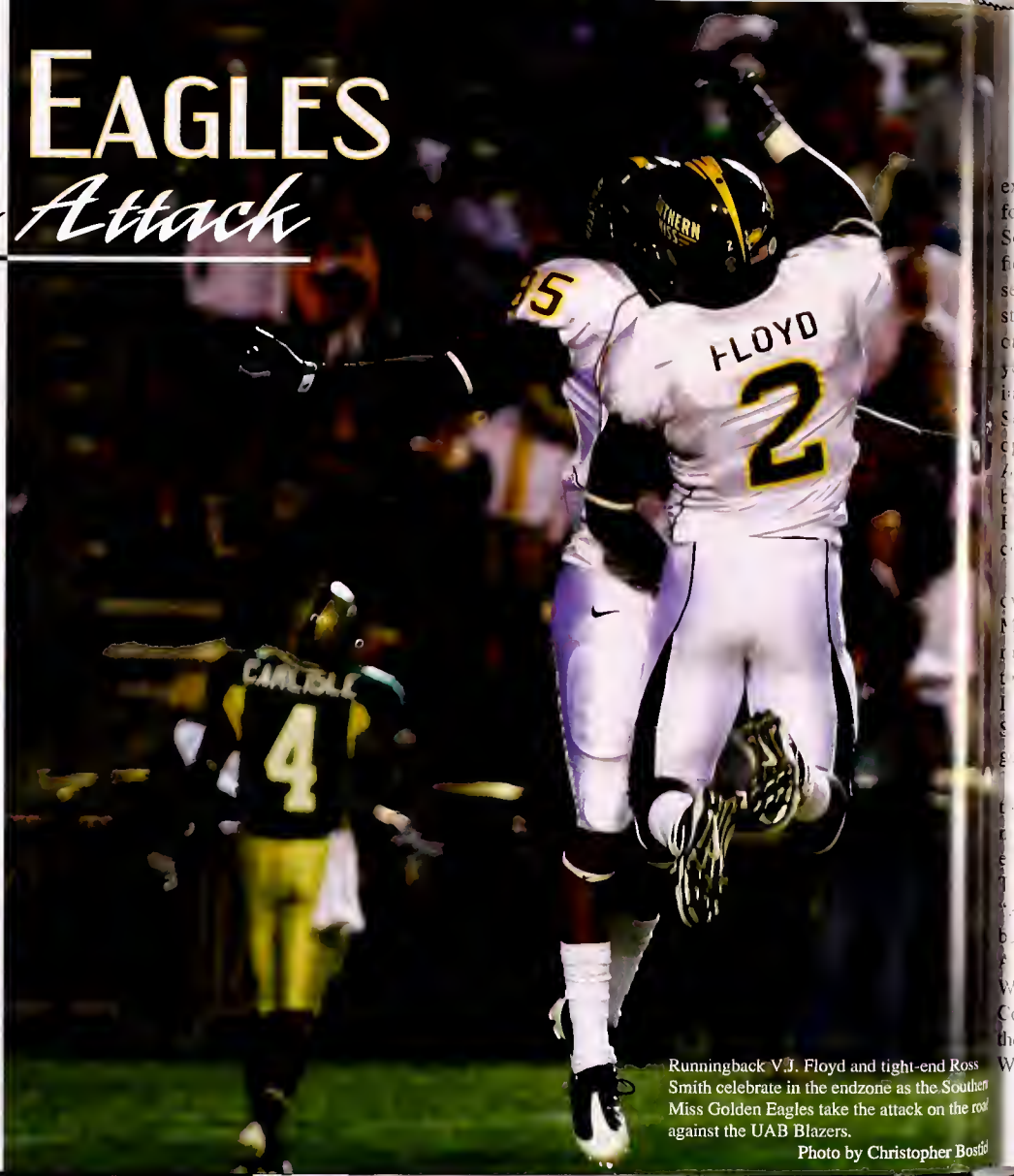
All Photos by Christopher Bostick



GOLDEN EAGLES

Sound the Attack

SOUTHERN MISS KICKS OFF
THE 2009 FOOTBALL
SEASON WITH VICTORIES
AGAINST ALCORN STATE,
CENTRAL FLORIDA, AND
VIRGINIA



Runningback V.J. Floyd and tight-end Ross Smith celebrate in the endzone as the Southern Miss Golden Eagles take the attack on the road against the UAB Blazers.

Photo by Christopher Boston

Nine months. Nine long, terrible, cruciating months. That's how long football fans had to wait to see their Southern Miss Golden Eagles take the field for the opening game of the 2009 season. After a season in 2008 that ended rough with five straight losses at that point, and ended so superbly with another bowl game win, excitement for the program was at an all time. On September 5th, the Golden Eagles ended the season with a match against Alcorn State. That game was followed by more great home games at the stadium. And for some fans, those games had not come soon enough.

"I kind of liked the way we ran the game against Alcorn State and UCF," said Ryan Patten, a junior Computer Science major from Mililani, Hawaii. "I enjoyed the confidence that we, as fans, now have. I'd like to be 'I really hope we win this game.' Now, it's more like, 'We're going to dominate them on Saturday.'" At the product on the field is not only a place of excitement. "I've heard that the District is packed before every game," said senior Information Technology major Will Turnage. "The excitement is to the brim and there is just a buzz on game day I haven't felt before." President of New Hebron, Mississippi, attributes a large part of that to Head Coach Larry Fedora. "You can hear it in the stadium, in the District, at the Eagle Walk, everywhere. People are constantly

chanting "Fedora." He has changed the face of Southern Miss football."

For the first time in a long time, the Eagles opened to a 3-0 start against Alcorn State, conference foe UCF, and ACC opponent Virginia. This, at the time, also gave Southern Miss the second longest winning streak in the nation, behind only Florida. "I think it's amazing how great our school can be at athletics," said Ray Patten, a freshman History major from Poplarville. Ray shared what it was like to be a freshman at his first game, "Victory. Just sitting in the student section with all the other students...at that particular moment, we all bled black and gold."

It does appear this year that the air around the football team is sizzling with excitement. With a young, fiery coach and the most talent Southern Miss has had on the team in years, this should no doubt be a year for the record books for the Golden Eagles. Most importantly, it has been, and will surely continue to be, a great year for the fans. Mottley said it best: "You come to a game and the sound of all the Southern Miss fans together is overwhelming." There is nothing quite like game day here at Southern Miss, and with Fedora leading the Golden Eagles, it's sure to be a great season.

Story by Alan Wheat



Head Coach Larry Fedora leads the Golden Eagles out at the first game of the 2009 season against Alcorn State.

Photo by Roy Green



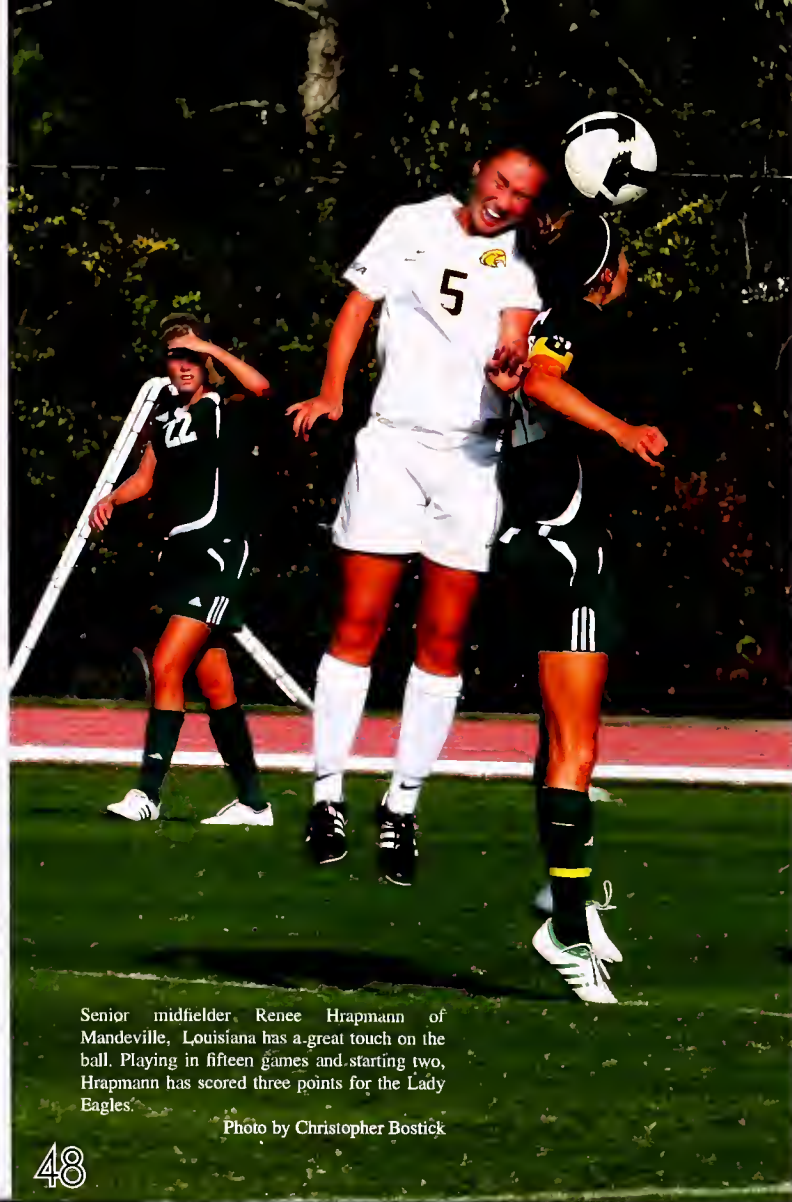
Southern Miss has a strong fan base that packs the student section each and every home game.

Photo by Roy Green



Quarterback Austin Davis led the team in a 26-19 win over UCF.

Photo by Jordan Moore



Senior midfielder, Renee Hrapmann of Mandeville, Louisiana has a great touch on the ball. Playing in fifteen games and starting two, Hrapmann has scored three points for the Lady Eagles.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

THE GREATEST GOAL:

HONORED TO BE AN EAGLE

Running. It's like second nature to a soccer player. It's having the wind in your hair and the soccer ball just past the tip of your toes. These women work hard. They are the embodiment of endurance and control. After a lean season in 2008, the team is looking to set some records this year. Starting out strong with a 4-2 record, the Southern Miss Women's Soccer team is quickly becoming a standout sport here in Hattiesburg.

Jana Mason, a junior midfielder/defender from Tupelo, enjoys being a part of the Southern Miss Soccer Team. "Being able to play soccer is what I enjoy most about college. I love soccer and I am thankful of having a group of teammates that enjoy playing soccer as well." Being a part of this team has allowed her to make a variety of friends. "We are all different, but soccer brings us together and allows us to form life-long friendships." Jana, a nutrition major and key returner for the team, knows that being in shape is important to keep that scoreboard in Southern Miss' favor: "Fitness is a very important component of soccer, so we have to do a lot of running and weight lifting. It's not fun at the time, but being healthy and able to play the sports you enjoy makes the hard stuff totally worth it." This is Jana's third year on the Southern Miss

women's soccer team.

Tricia Tillman, a Madison native majoring in kinesiology, is enjoying her first year on the team. "I love soccer and love being on the team...I'm honored to wear the Lady Eagle jersey." This freshman isn't afraid to work hard; she plays forward and sometimes has a secondary position as outside midfielder. After Southern Miss coach [name] and watched Tricia play in high school, she was offered a spot on the team. "Through hard work and a positive attitude," Tricia says, "I want to advance in the soccer world."

Senior Daniela Picado has been on the team for four years and has enjoyed watching the team grow and make progress. "What motivates me the most to continue playing is the love I have for the game; I love soccer and I love the lifestyle that goes along with it. Women's Soccer at Southern Miss also feeds my competitive hunger!" Daniela hopes to leave Southern Miss on a winning streak. "I have a lot of confidence in our team this season. I think as long as we all stay healthy and maintain our fitness and keep focused, we have the ability to be very successful this year."

Story by Arielle Edwards



Midfielder Keilah Hopkins of Irving, maintains a technically-sound game as played in 16 games and scored 6 points. She is among the top three scorers for the Eagles.

Photo by Jordan Moore



Junior defender Sarah Brusco of Dallas, Texas is great in the air and aggressive in the tackle. Brusco played in 16 games and started in seven.

Photo by Jordan Moore

Number 4, Sarah Jane Bowden, and number 17, Kelsea Seymour, celebrate their gain of a point after a challenging series of volleys.

Photo by Jordan Moore



VOLLEY VICTORY

WINNING CONFERENCE USA



Sophomore outside hitter Caillin Clarke rears back for a monstrous spike in the game against Central Florida.

Photo by Roy Green

So, you lose two starting seniors after a promising volleyball season in 2008. Obviously, there are going to be some setbacks the next year, right? There is no way that team can rise and win its school's first ever conference championship in volleyball, right? Not in this house. Coach Ricci Luyties led his girls to a 26-4 record on the season, and were 14-2 in the conference, on his way to the first conference championship in school history.

"It's fantastic," said Luyties. "It's such a relief and just such a feeling of happiness. We kept pushing and just took it one game at a time. We've played a lot of tight games this year, but we've never given up. We've given tight games away in the past, but it's been a major turnaround." That's a significant improvement over the 17-1 record last year, the first winning season of his career. Coach Luyties attributes the ability to the young talent that is featured on the team this year.

"Last year, we had a lot of young girls on the squad, a lot of freshmen," said Coach Luyties. "This year, they are sophomores and they have more experience. They are used to the system and have advanced to a new level on the court." The sixth year head coach pointed out several of the go-to players this year, specifically younger players who are going to carry this team in the future.

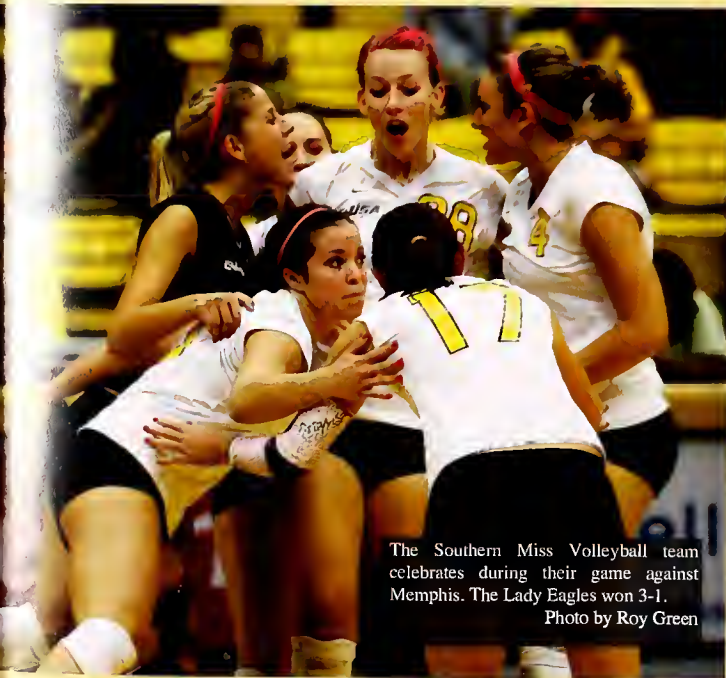
"Ashley Mell was a big surprise

We knew she was going to be good, but she's really come on. She was injured some and had limited playing time, but she has stepped up and played very well." Coaches also pointed out Kelsey Seymour and Angela Hlavati as strong players this year. "Angela has been battling injuries, but she's finally 100% and Kelsey has been running in the show. Both players have really contributed this year." The last game of year, where the Eagles solidified their championship, was also the last game for Seniors Hlavati and Maia. Both girls, however, feel they are helping the team in some very capable ways. "I couldn't be happier with the

girls we are leaving the team with," said Hlavati. "They have the experience and have played well. They'll still be a good team." "I'm confident in next year's team," said Ivanova. "They are all good players and they know why they are here."

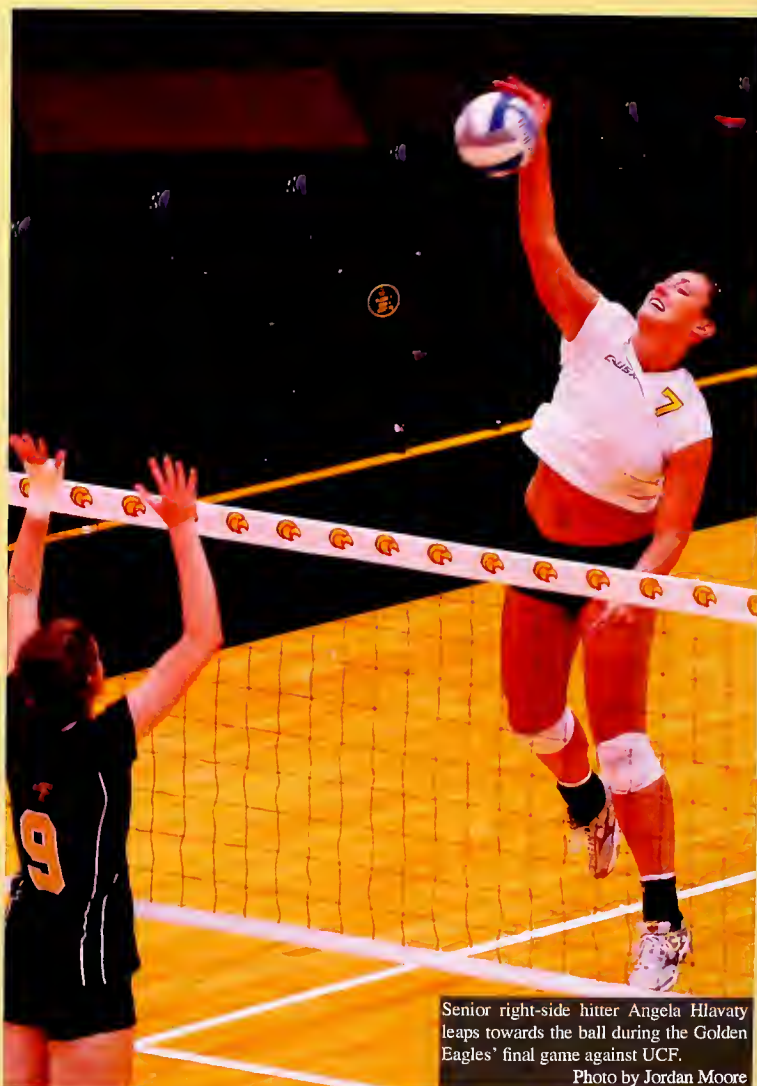
Hopefully, the girls will continue this success next year and bring home many more conference championships, making Southern Miss a true volleyball powerhouse in the NCAA.

Story by Alan Wheat



The Southern Miss Volleyball team celebrates during their game against Memphis. The Lady Eagles won 3-1.

Photo by Roy Green



Senior right-side hitter Angela Hlavati leaps towards the ball during the Golden Eagles' final game against UCF.

Photo by Jordan Moore

IFC Fall Recruitment


Continuing the Brotherhood

Every August, the fraternities of Southern Miss anxiously await new members. Some of these new recruits already know which house best suits them, but many use the week of formal recruitment to meet the ten fraternities on campus, becoming more acquainted with the foundations of each with the ultimate goal of finding one that feels most like home. Over time, the recruitment process has changed along with the selection of recruits, but the overall aspiration has stayed the same—brotherhood.

Deciding to join a fraternity is a big step in a man's life. The benefits and connections gained after joining a fraternity never stop coming, as new Pike associate member Madison Rosonet, a freshman construction engineering major from St. Martin, has already discovered. "I really wanted to join a fraternity to get to know more people and live my college experience to the fullest. I like the involvement that fraternities can have on campus."

Each fraternity has their own house on campus, where everything from philanthropic events to band parties are held. These houses serve as the location for formal recruitment and give the men looking to join a fraternity a glimpse into the life of a fraternity member while they conduct their search. "During my short time with my fraternity, I have already grown used to the everyday life around the house," reflects Joey Cofield, a junior history major from Gulfport who recently signed with Sigma Phi Epsilon. "I can't separate myself apart from the fraternity now. Although my time here has not been very long, I truly see my fraternity as a home away from home. It's a place where I can talk to anyone about school or life in general, and I can just enjoy a good game of ping pong."

"I don't expect my fraternity to help me anything," said Rosonet. "Through my time as a Greek, I hope to work to become



Sigma Nu brothers Tyler Cargill and Cody Stuart anxiously await their new members on Bid Day, bearing the flag of their fraternity.



Fau brothers guide their new members on the journey from the Payne Center to the Phi Tau house on Bid Day.

man, learning the difference between right and wrong and just becoming a better

the changing times, Southern fraternity recruitment is changing as it better suit the need of the chapters. Recruitment trends have been changing not only at Southern Miss, but also at numerous colleges and universities within the Southern States," said Interfraternity Council member Bentley Anderson, a senior from Hattiesburg, double majoring in history and political science. "In order for the success of our IFC fraternities to remain strong, we must assess the various points of each fraternity so that we may better understand the needs of each organization and explore new methods of recruitment

to undertake."

As the years roll by and the membership changes, the impact made by a single pledge class could be the fire needed to foster a strong growth within the fraternity. A fraternity man can better their chapter to help it become larger or even to simply help their fellow brothers understand the words of their Founding Fathers to a higher extent. A fraternity exists for a higher reason than simply a social organization; fraternity life changes an individual for the better, only if that person is ready and willing to sign a bid and prepare for memories that will last the rest of his life.

Story by John Barr
All Photos by Jordan Moore



Freshmen Kory Zimmermann and Nick Stevens race off from the Payne Center to be greeted by their brothers at the Pike house following their bid signing.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES HUB OPENING



Clockwise: Senior Kellis McSparrin and juniors Katie Walker, Cheryl Cornacchione and Molly Peresich improvise at the opening of the new Student Activities Hub.

Photo by Samantha Yancey



Freeman, Audrey Charoglu, Alesia Dr. Martha Saunders, J. R. [unclear] and Joel Hughes cut the ribbon for the Student Activities Hub.

Photo by Eli Baylis

es, advisor to SMAC, welcomes ents, faculty, and friends to the activities lasted well into the ng with all sorts of performances ties.

Photo by Samantha Yancey



Caricature artist and SMAC-event regular Ricky Nobeil provided free caricatures during the Hub Opening.

Photo by Samantha Yancey

Some graduating seniors may remember first visits to the Southern Miss campus involving a visit to the old Barnes & Noble location. With a move to the Thad Cochran Center, this space was available but empty for years. This space has now been transformed into a place that students can utilize for a much different purpose. As of October 29, 2009, complete with a ribbon cutting, this area is now the new Student Activities Hub.

Home to the four permanent student organizations that are highly involved with either creating the environment for student activities on campus or capturing it, the newly renovated space is now a campus institution and will continue to be for years to come. These organizations are the Southern Miss Activities Council (SMAC), Afro-American Student Organization (AASO), Student Government Association (SGA), and the Southerner. Frantz Salomon, a senior music major, also serves as SMAC president and feels that the new hub makes these organizations more accessible. "It is so nice to be here and we're really thankful for the space."

The Hub is not limited to these organizations. With two conference rooms, and areas for congregating, organizations

can reserve this space for free. Cabinet space is also available for those organizations that need storage.

"I think the Student Activities Hub will serve as a very suitable place for all students, helping to create a more efficient and organized campus experience for involved students," said Kyle Nixon, a junior psychology major from Picayune.

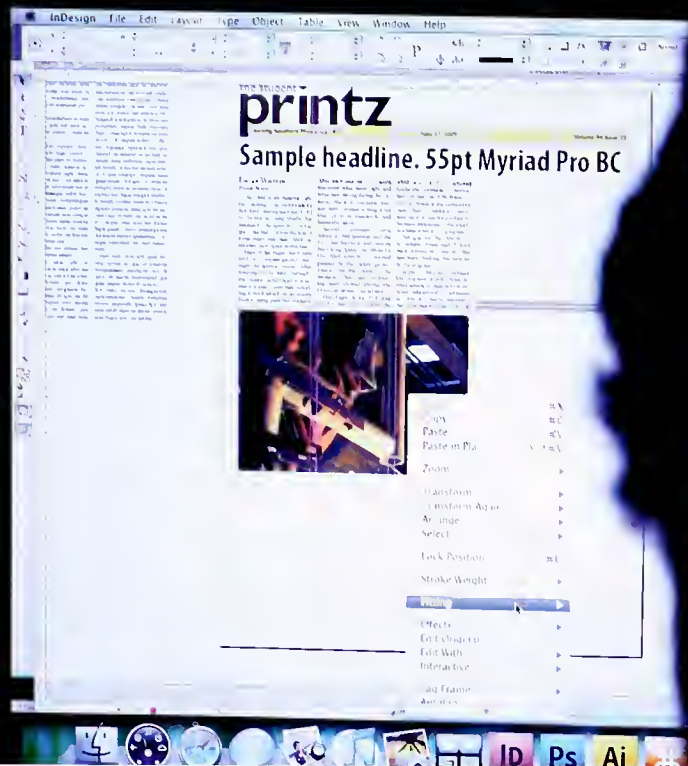
Jarred Patterson, a junior marketing major from Mobile, sees that the new SA Hub "makes the idea of student involvement a lot more appealing with this bigger space, while increasing visibility of the offices that involve students so much."

The SA Hub is seen as "a venue for students" according to Audrey Charoglu, Assistant Director for Student Activities Union and Programs. She mentioned how the SGA saw this as a great place for future development and a place where students could socialize. Joel Hughes, Student Activities Manager, appreciates the spaciousness of this "top-notch" area for students to meet and greet. With the new Student Activities Hub open, it will now obtain its character from being what a "hub" is—the central area of campus where students can gather together and get involved here at Southern Miss.

Story by Yvette M. Barr

THE STUDENT PRINTZ

GETS A FACELIFT



Senior designer Bradley Jackson marshals his creative energies into composing the front page of an upcoming issue of *The Student Printz*.

Life happens here at Southern Miss from moment-to-moment. It zooms by as one walks to class. It happens while one sleeps in on a Monday morning when they have an eight o'clock class. All of these events may leave a student wondering what exactly happened as the day progressed. For this there is a group of students who have a passion of conveying to everyone successfully just what happened in those ever-changing moments.

With a drive to produce news for the general Southern Miss public and beyond, students with a wide range of topical interests have met this challenge. They have done so by producing the student-run newspaper, *The Student Printz*, and making it available in print as well as online via their website: www.thestudentprintz.com.

Madison Anne Walker, a senior marine biology major from Pensacola, is a loyal reader of *The Student Printz*, favors the "Opinion" section. "With all the diversity on campus, you never know what kind of surprises you could read about," Walker noted. She also feels that the occasional music reviews are important. With a diverse music scene in Hattiesburg, *The Student Printz* helps students to stay informed on what is available to enjoy.

This year the newspaper is in a new tabloid format. Being this size makes it easier to carry around campus as well as to see more on the page at once. Jesse Bass, Executive Editor of *The Student Printz*, helped make this process in change a reality.



Junior Meryl Dakin edits a Volleyball Championship article. Every article has to be checked and rechecked during the hectic editing process.

In addition, the senior photojournalism major from Poplarville finds what needs to be printed and how to accomplish this. As he says, he has the responsibility "to decide what the news is."

Maggie Williams serves as the Publication Manager for the student newspaper. She has enjoyed having the opportunity to see the newspaper grow over the years. "*The Student Printz* is one of the best kept secrets on campus because any student or major with the drive can work for it... It's a fun place to work and becomes like a big family over the school year."

With a range of topics from campus events, entertainment in the community, fashion, opinions, and sports, with room for local businesses to communicate with Southern Miss students, there is much to be acquired from picking up one's free copy twice a week. Through its title created in 1927, inspired by the Broadway musical *The Student Prince*, it has successfully kept students in the know.

Story by Yvette M. Barr

All Photos by Christopher Bostick



Junior Melissa Dunn and freshman Lisa Gurley work together to fulfill their deadline for the next issue of the *Printz*. Collaboration is key to putting out a successful biweekly paper.

PARKING ON CAMPUS

meters, tags, lots and spots



The parking spots along College Drive provide up-close parking to residents of Hattiesburg, Hickman, and Mississippi Halls. These spots are among the most coveted on campus.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

Southern Miss has many things to offer. From the scenic views on campus to the numerous student activities that even the most rarely attending activity goer can bear to pass up. For many students, there is always one area that seems to be lacking – parking. Though this is a hot topic, one thing that Southern Miss prides itself on is leniency in regards to freshman parking. Unlike other universities, Southern Miss allows its newest class to bring their vehicles to school and access parking spaces they might not be given anywhere else.

The availability of parking has been an issue that has plagued the university for years and with the growing student population, the university is seeing growing student concern regarding the issue. Sarah Beth Rakescraw, a junior dance major from Corinth finds that commuter parking is made more difficult by the fact that some commuter parking lots are placed on gravel lots. “The thing that frustrates me the most is that in the gravel pits there are no lines, she says. “I park a lot of times in really small spaces and sometimes I hit the doors beside me.”

Parking on game days can also be an issue. Most on campus residents are asked to move their vehicles on game day because football parking is reserved for alumni and other patrons of Southern Miss. Roderick Frye, a sophomore music education major from Mobile, Alabama says, “I never stay for a game because of the hassle of having to park all the way on the other side of campus.”

There have been many solutions to ease the parking crisis on campus but the most recent attempt is seemingly more drastic than previous efforts. “The university is proposing to construct a one thousand space parking garage to the rear of Bond Hall,” says Dean of Students Eldon Holloway, but it is also suggested that the parking garage many not be enough to easily and handily fix the parking situation. One thing that has made life a little easier on students is the new shuttle system. It is a bus designed to take students where they need to go on campus and has been successful thus far. “The shuttle bus is a good system. I just wish it was expanded across campus.” Currently, the shuttle runs from the back entrance of the Thad Cochran Center to Hillcrest resident hall.

“Parking management, I think, does a splendid job,” says Holloway. “The university has parking challenges. Our challenges though are not unlike most other urban universities. Though parking is not an ideal situation on campus, the university strives to help improve it with each step, and students find comfort in knowing that with every project attempting to advance the parking situation, Southern Miss gets closer and closer to making the best parking situation on campus for everyone.

Stories by Divah Griffin

Tow trucks are a common sight on campus given the competitive state of parking. This green Beetle is just one of many cars towed before the semester ends.

Photo by Je Lisa Davis



When a parking meter runs out of time in front of Scott Hall, students who can't find spots are sometimes forced to use metered spots.

Photo by Michael Swords



Full parking lots like this are becoming an increasingly common sight on campus as the numbers of students at Southern Miss rises.

Photo by Sarah Necaize

Meet Kate Greene:



Kate Greene, Associate Professor of Political Science, can be spotted from a mile away on campus. Anyone who happens to wander into the Liberal Arts Building can quickly tell by the ponytail and the shades on a string worn around her neck that Greene has more to her book than just it's cover. Her primary mode of transportation? A bike kept in her office inbetween jaunts. "I've always ridden my bike," says Greene, "It is green, but since I learned how to ride a bike, I've been riding a bike."

Along with her distinct style and mode of transportation, she is most well known for her

involvement in trying to make not only Southern Miss, but the city of Hattiesburg as a whole a little greener. Greene first got involved with the Hattiesburg recycling project and has now moved on to the Go Green Initiative at Southern Miss. She currently has a blog informing others how to be more eco-friendly and is the inspiration of the new "Kate Says" signs which encourage students to recycle. "We need to be responsible because it's not just us," says Greene, "or there won't be a future and I think that's one of the best reasons to do it."

Photo by Samantha M. Light

just dance

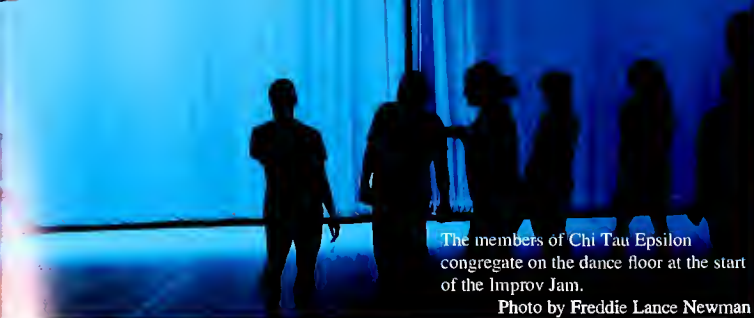
CHI TAU EPSILON

60



Freshman Mariel Lane jumps in the air, performing an energetic grande jeté during the opening festivities of the Big-Little Reveal Improv-Jam.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



The members of Chi Tau Epsilon congregate on the dance floor at the start of the Improv Jam.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Senior Ashley Lane improves to the classic hits of Michael Jackson.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

iding across the glossy stage with the beat through your soul. Hearing the music moving your body to express the feeling you. Dance here at Southern Miss is by contemporary choreography mixed classical style. Chi Tau Epsilon brings in of today's dancers to form one of the respected honors societies on campus. McSaparrin, a junior dance major from serves as the current vice president for Epsilon. "Our organization strives to for the Southern Miss dance division surrounding areas, and to promote the ed and individual interests in the ment of the performing arts."

student organization, which currently over thirty-five members, is overseen ident Molly Peresich, a junior dance on major from Ocean Springs. "I'm proud of what we have accomplished the past semester. We had a great nance at the Grand Opening of the student Activities Hub in October." The zation also made a grand impression on dance department during the Fall Faculty student Performance Concert held at the Moni Performing Arts Center.

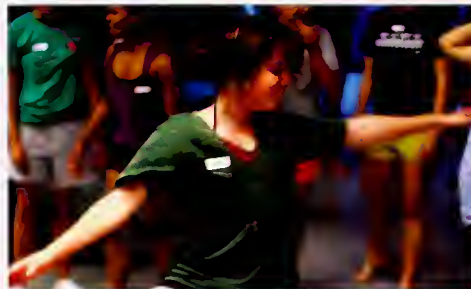
Shellie Nielson, the faculty advisor for Chi Tau Epsilon, has been astounded at the endeavors and successes of the group. "They have been working so hard and you can see the

positive impact they've made on campus. I'm very proud of how far they have come and how creative they're dancing has evolved."

"One of the great aspects of our group is that we are close knit," says senior member Mary Schindler, a dance performance major from Mandeville. "We have mentees that we help smooth their dance style and get them more acquainted to the department. I'm very proud of how close we are and how much that helps when organizing events and dance concerts."

The organization will host its final event for the semester on December 6th, where Chi Tau Epsilon will host an informal concert in the Theatre and Dance Building. The event will serve as the final premiere of the students hard work and dedication. Treasurer of Chi Tau Epsilon, Falon Batzell, hopes the event will "show the community how much our program has come and how hard we have worked." The senior dance education major from Meridian has been a member since her sophomore year and has "thoroughly enjoyed seeing the organization grow and watch the stylistics of dance morph with each new member." Chi Tau Epsilon is an organization open to any student at Southern Miss and is founded on honing in dance principle and style at any dance experience level.

Story by Marie John



Lane leads the members of Chi Tau Epsilon in a "Soul Train" line.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Nicole Taylor, a junior, performs a graceful grande developpé leap.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Juniors Katie Walker (right) and Mae King (left) work on their freestyle dancing during the end of the jam.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

SEPTEMBER RECAP

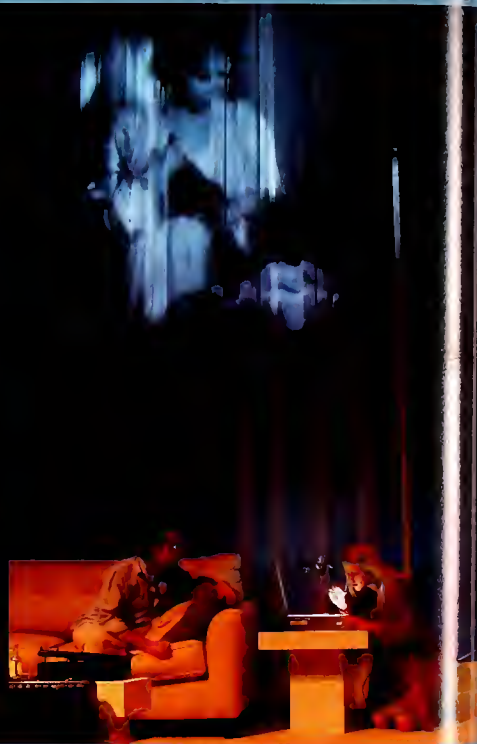
Burton Tedesco and Margaret Wild portray Alfred Hitchcock and the 1959 blonde. The play concerns Hitchcock's two clear obsessions: blondes and mysteries.

Photo by Erin Wojtala



In this scene, the 1959 blonde attempts to kill her husband, portrayed by Chris Dixon.

Photo by Erin Wojtala



Joseph Lopez and Devon James portray Alex and Nicola. The show follows two threads: one in the present, and another in 1959.

Photo by Erin Wojtala

Hitchcock Blonde



Sophomore Amanda McDaniel, a member of Eagle Connection, guides a group of high school seniors during Black and Gold Day.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Daniel Graham and Carter Hudson practice with the Southern Miss Rugby Football Club. The club was founded in 1973.

Photo by Samantha M. Light

GOLDEN EAGLES *on the Road*



The Golden Eagles, led by Coach Larry Fedora and accompanied by Seymour, stampede onto the field for the big game against Houston.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

After a strong 3-0 start with three consecutive home games, the Golden Eagles football team failed to keep the undefeated streak going with three consecutive losses away to ranked Kansas, conference foe UAB, and former conference rival Louisville. The UAB loss stung in particular, as it was the first time Southern Miss has ever lost to the Blazers on the football gridiron.

The Eagles were able to rebound after their away game blues with two strong victories at home against conference foes Memphis and Tulane.

These wins help put the Eagles in a prime position to win the East division in Conference-USA, earning a spot in the Conference championship game. "Those wins were important because a lot of fans were losing their faith in the team," said Tyler Cargill, a junior anthropology and forensic sciences major from Swanton, Ohio. "The team being back at home, putting up a lot of points, and winning kept a lot of fans from giving up."

They then went away again, to follow up with a big game against the 15th

ranked (at the time) conference rival Houston Cougars, a team many considered to be the best team in the conference. The Eagles put up a valiant effort and marched down field late in the game. Junior quarterback Jeremy Young threw a pass to senior wide receiver Gerald Baptiste in the end zone with less than a minute left to tie the game. But 36 seconds is an eternity for the high-powered Houston offense, which scored in that time on its way to having over 700 yards of offense in the game.

"We were definitely down after the Houston loss," said defensive coordinator Todd Bradford. "But we had to put it behind us quickly and get ready for the rest of the season." The team was visibly down after a game they knew they could have won, but they weren't hanging their heads. Baptiste could be heard saying, "We'll be back on December 5th!" on his way to the locker room, that being the date of the Conference championship game. The team as a whole shared similar sentiments.

"We're down, but we know if we



Despite losing on the road to Houston, senior Damion Fletcher managed to rush for 136 yards with two touchdowns.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

we'll still win the conference," sophomore linebacker Korey Wil-

son's six game stretch, which the team went 2-4 through, left the Eagles with a 5-4 record and in a deep battle for the East division. Head coach Larry Fedora rated the team's performance through the first nine games of the season. "There have been more positives than negatives. Obviously, we feel like in every game we have played was winnable. The four games where we didn't come out on top boils down to winning

in the fourth quarter. That's going to be our big focus down the stretch: finishing the game." With three games left, and each one having championship implications, the Eagles need to finish each game to keep the season alive in the postseason. "We're sitting here in November and all of our goals are still sitting right here in front of us," said Fedora. "We feel very fortunate and excited about that opportunity."

Story by Alan Wheat



Senior Andre Watson returns a punt for a touchdown during the homecoming game against Tulane.

Photo by Jordan Moore

The Pride of Mississippi works on formations for their half-time performance. The band members practice four times a week to make sure that they are ready for Saturday night football games.

Photo by Michael Swords



Color guard practice formations for their opening performance. The flag corps bring color to the Pride of Mississippi.

Photo by Kristi Buister



Tracey Johnson, Katelin Cockrell, and Rachel Griffin work on the proper key strokes on their instruments for the "Night Song." These woodwinds help create the melody for the band.

Photo by Kristi Buister

THE PRIDE
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT



The Dixie Darlings practice their performance for the first football game against Alcorn State University. These high-kicking ladies practice not only with the band, but also together to create these elaborate dances.

Photo by Kristi Bruister

The Pride of Mississippi marching band is about more than just making music, the practices are more than just running through the game day performance, and the hard work that goes into such a program is much more than some may think. The Pride is a family that works together in every aspect possible to prove that their efforts are as real as it gets. These talented college students know the real meaning of the words "determination," and "dedication," and it's all due to the music program here at Southern Miss.

Whether it's a standard practice or an extra session right before a big game, no band member will lie to you about the heat. Two hours of band practice alone is enough to give you a tan, as well as make sure the performance at the Rock goes well. Common advice is to not wear a black shirt and remember to bring plenty bottles of water. Though it's hot and lots of hard work, freshmen color guard member Kabria Poe, a music education major from Starkville, admits that either way, "being in the band has its benefits. Marching helps you stay in physical shape without going to the gym!"

With or without the burning heat, marching band is known to tag along one certain frustration: repetitiveness. After reviewing sets numerous times and running drill after drill, it can become really hard to keep a

positive attitude. Timmy Crawford, a sophomore Tuba player from Mobile, Alabama says, "This is the time where the strong and dedicated are separated from the weak and unwilling to succeed. The conditions that The Pride members are faced with show each student's strengths and weaknesses, no doubt." The architectural engineering major says, "we work hard to impress. It's a great honor to be a golden eagle, but it's and even greater honor to be a member of The Pride."

In the end, it's evident that all of the students' dedication pays off. The minute they see the crowd awaiting their appearance in the stadium, all of the frustrations leading up to game day are forgotten. The band is used to help boost a game's morale, and with such an important role toward the spirit of the school, these students know that they have to love what they do to make their audiences believe in what the band does as well. Lauren Casey, a junior horn player from Pensacola, Florida, is a Music Performance major who believes that "the most rewarding part of marching at the games is knowing that our music and exhibitions gets the fans into such high spirits for the game! Marching off of the field and seeing the fans go crazy because of something we all worked together to do is an amazing feeling of accomplishment."

THE PRIDE

OF MISSISSIPPI



Michael Roberts (left) and Demetrius Robinson (right) belt out the backbone to Southern Miss' "Fight Song" during the first homegame of the season.

Photo by Calvin Wu



Sophomore Koty Cox and senior Demetrius Robinson join the saxophone section in yelling during a particularly rainy afternoon Eaglewalk.

Photo by Jordan Moore

The "Pride of Mississippi" Marching Band has been a part of the University of Southern Mississippi since 1920, and with time comes recognition. This organization has been to not only Ireland and England, but they've played at Lambeau Field with the Green Bay Packers in 2006. The Pride's most recent accomplishment, under the direction of William Schuman, was their invitation to "Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade."

Because of their talent and talent perseverance, the band gets the once in a while chance to be televised in one of the world's most watched broadcastings.

Glissa Fairbank, a nursing major and team member, and Dixie Darling from Covington,

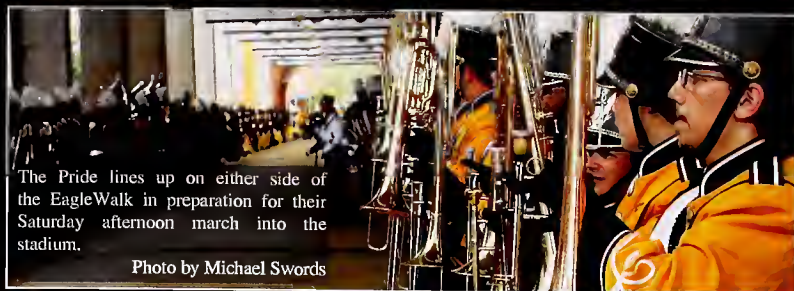
Louisiana, says that she "loves knowing [she] is a part of one of the great traditions here at Southern Miss." With next year's participation hoping to rise to around three-hundred students all together, this band will be an even greater success within the next few years. The more dedicated students that the program can recruit, the more recognition the Pride will be certain to receive.

Story by Alexandria Atchison



Color guard Audrey Dunnam strikes a pose during one of the opening games of the 2009 season. Color guard helps to add a more visual element to the halftime experience.

Photo by Samantha M. Light



The Pride lines up on either side of the EagleWalk in preparation for their Saturday afternoon march into the stadium.

Photo by Michael Swords



Christian Peltier, Andre Woods, Timothy Shepherd, and Forrest Bishop deliver a strong foundation on bass drums to pump up the crowd.

Photo by Calvin Wu



Seymour and the Southern Miss cheerleaders ride on top of a fire truck in the Homecoming Parade Saturday before the football game.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



The Lucky Day Scholars' float sits in front of the administration building displaying the five original buildings of Southern Miss.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Freshmen, Elizabeth Rexford and Alden Bennett portray Mickey and Minnie Mouse for the annual Mr. and Miss Varsity Pageant.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

Miss USM Maggie Evans and President Saunders crown Sammone Faulkner as the 2009 Homecoming queen during halftime of the Homecoming game against Tulane.

Photo by Samantha M. Light



HOMECOMING

Black and gold, it never gets old

ervent spirit could be felt throughout Southern Miss campus during coming week. From decorating with colorful designs at the front of to football practices and different activities, campus was alive. It was clear that the theme of "Black and ever Gets Old" held true with this of school spirit as the university to celebrate its centennial year. Hollywood, freshman biology major Clarville, said, "With the 100 year anniversary coming up, the theme did but multiply and motivate school


The week's activities included different activities for teams of multiple organizations to win the coveted homecoming title. Everything started Sunday at midnight when organizations meeting in the float competition met. That night, each organization could be seen stuffing their floats at midnight, and went out all with everything from raves to music stuffing parties. The week included a Homecoming Kickoff with a relay race, food, drinks, and a party. On Tuesday, teams competed in the all time favorite Fountain Sit where students sat in the Shoemaker Square Fountain and braved the weather and water while answering Southern Miss questions

related to history and traditions.

On Wednesday there was a pageant of couples dressed as the opposite sex for "Famous Couples from the Past." Thursday there were various activities from a campus-wide cleanup and an Eagle Hop contest. Friday students were encouraged to wear black and gold and prepare for the battle against Tulane. The day was full of activity as the events of Saturday approached. As final touches to the homecoming floats were made, Friday Night at the Fountain took place with the band Cayerio and later a pep rally lead by our Southern Miss cheerleaders, the Dixie Darlings, and the Pride of Mississippi. Saturday brought on the annual homecoming parade around town with the court and various student organizations include fraternities, sororities, international students, as well as many others. "Homecoming week was really fun. Stuffing the float, attending all the events, and riding in the parade will be a wonderful part of my senior memories at Southern Miss," said Amber Ashley, a senior advertising major from Brookhaven.

Finally there was the long-awaited game Saturday night on October 24. With an exhilarated crowd and lots of school spirit, Southern Miss played a great game of 43-6 against Tulane.

Story continues on next page



Courtney Necosia, a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority helps stuff her team's float. Stuffing floats is a labor-intensive process that takes organizations a week to complete.

Photo by Samantha Stanford

SOUTHERN MISS ROYALTY

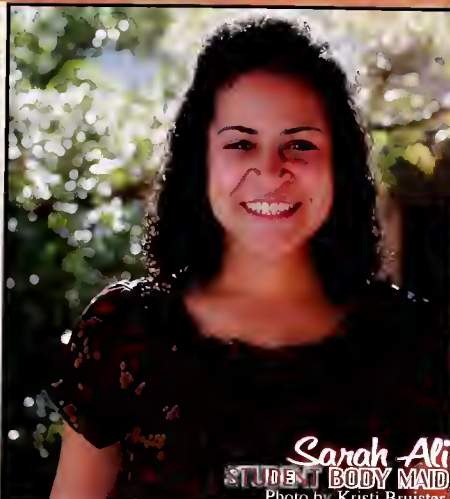
the homecoming court



Kaitlyn Mount

SOPHOMORE MAID

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Sarah Ali

STUDENT BODY MAID

Photo by Kristi Bruister



Chasidy Quave

SENIOR MAID

Photo by Samantha Yancy



Jill Duckworth

JUNIOR MAID

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Kandace Hardin

FRESHMAN MAID

Photo by Christopher Bostick



QUEEN
Samone Faulkner
Photo by [illegible] Stanford

At halftime, the homecoming court was presented through a grand procession across the field. Homecoming Queen Samone Faulkner, a senior public relations major from Hattiesburg, was bursting with love for Southern Miss. "My favorite part of homecoming was the overwhelming support that I received from the university and the larger Hattiesburg community. Words cannot express the emotions I felt as I walked down the field in anticipation of being crowned the 2009 Homecoming Queen. It was truly a humbling experience, and I am appreciative to have received such an honor."

In addition to Homecoming Queen Samone Faulkner, the court included of Student Body Maid Sarah Ali, a senior from Hattiesburg; Sasha Williamson of Bay St. Louis, represented Southern Miss as Graduate Maid; Chastity Quave of Gautier was Senior Maid; Junior Maid was Jill Duckworth of Clinton; Sophomore Maid was Kaitlyn Hope Mount of Mobile; and Freshman Maid Kandace Hardy of Collinsville. Zoe Beckham, a senior from Mandeville, and Brandon Davis, a senior from Meridian, were selected for Mr. and Miss Southern Miss.

Story by Yvette Barr

VIVA LAS VEGAS

RHA HITS THE JACKPOT WITH CASINO NIGHT



Freshmen Courtney Jones, Jessica Miles, and Kenyatta Knight play blackjack at RHA Casino Night. Knight celebrates an impressive hand.

one of the most life
 long experiences
 Southern Miss is the
 time it becomes for

Here, people
 others from all
 the world and get
 better people who
 have lived in the
 hometown the last
 years or so. It
 relationships are
 with one another
 the community.
 the organizations
 to enhance the
 ment of students
 on campus
 Residence Hall
 on (RHA).

year, RHA
 events for
 to come
 and enhance the
 communities
 Casino Night
 event that gets
 together living on
 According to the
 of RHA, Kirsten
 a junior marine

and psychology major from Joplin,
 explains the event as both a
 fair and bonding time. "At Casino
 we had a large amount of games
 where many residents were able
 to know other students that live on
 while relaxing. The event was very

successful and managed to reach out to a
 large percent of the residents."

With game nights like Casino Night,
 where students get involved with games like
 spades and UNO, students are kept active,
 involved and informed. Weston Harwell, a
 biochemistry sophomore from Poplarville,
 serves as Associate Director of Finance for

RHA and said, "The programs we host are
 always fun, and it is a great chance to get to
 meet new people."

Through RHA, not only can students get
 to know one another and become exposed to
 the new community off residents, but they
 can also voice their opinions and improve
 on anything as needed. JaVaughnae

college experience. By voicing their
 opinions, they can be heard and make a
 change for an improved environment for
 future Southern Miss residents.

Story by Yvette Barr

All Photos by Samantha Yancey

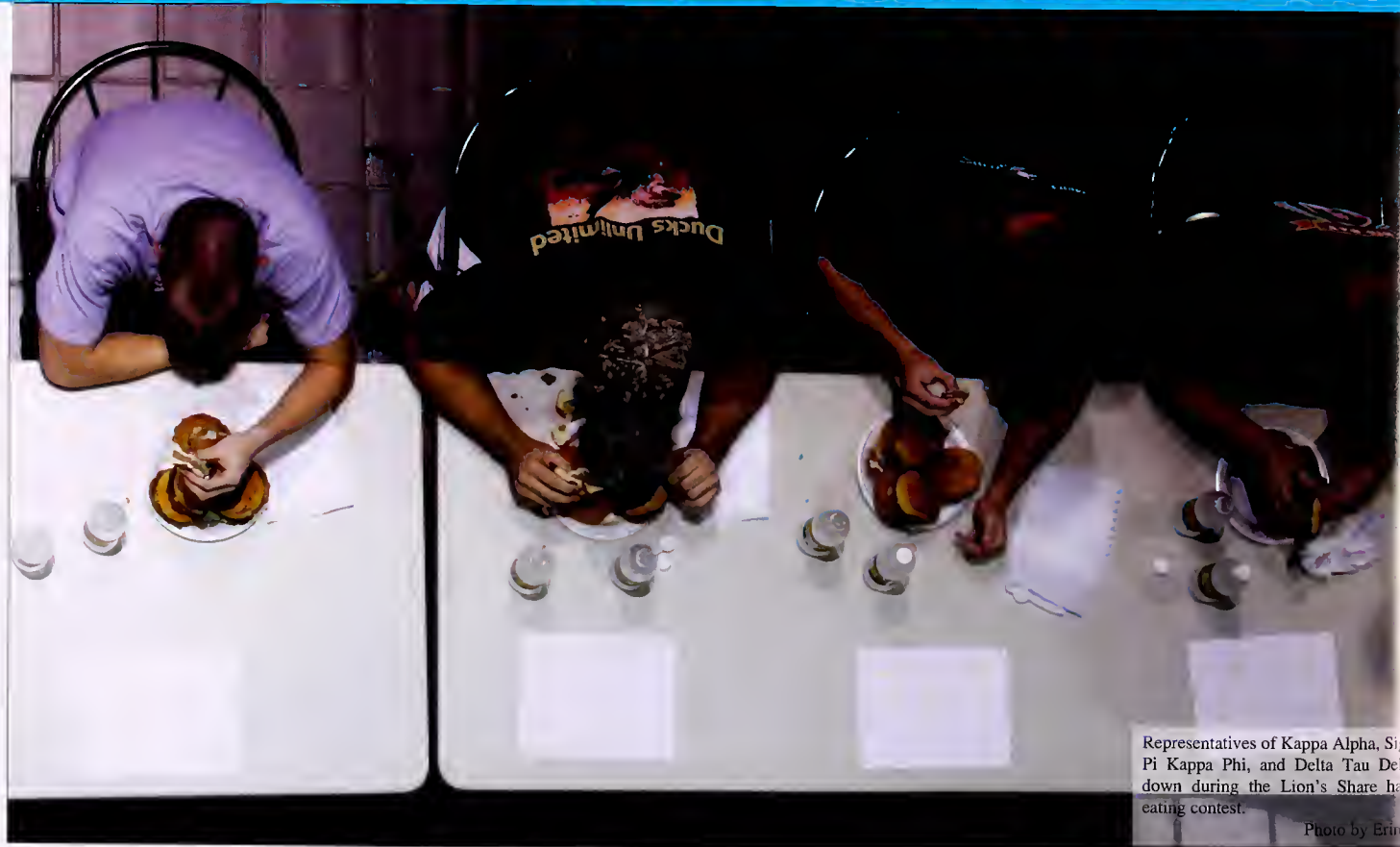


Twister was one of the fan favorite
 games during "Casino Night." Also
 available were: spades, blackjack,
 UNO, dominos, and go fish.

Malone, a senior
 broadcast journalism
 major from Mobile,
 serves as the Associate
 Director of Public
 Relations for RHA,
 and defined the role of
 RHA as providing "on
 campus students with a
 voice in their residence
 hall. We are the liaison
 between the Residence
 Life department
 and the residents
 on campus. Their
 residence hall is now
 their home away from
 home." As residents,
 students are already
 members of RHA, while
 representatives can vote.

As a momentary
 home with a lifelong
 impact, living on
 campus provides many
 memories for students'
 time at Southern Miss.
 By taking advantage of
 the activities presented
 by RHA, students can
 really enhance their

Alpha Delta Pi LION'S SHARE CHALLENGE



Representatives of Kappa Alpha, Sigma Chi, Pi Kappa Phi, and Delta Tau Delta chow down during the Lion's Share hand eating contest.

Photo by Erin

ladies of Alpha Delta Pi kicked off their philanthropy week this October. Lion Share, which benefits the Ronald McDonald House, culminated in an eating contest that saw the sorority provide mountains of food to those brave and hungry enough to take their place on the line for charity. During the eating contest, organizations competed in a dodge ball tournament.

Alpha Delta Pi, founded in 1851 in Macon, Georgia, is the Wesleyan Female College's oldest secret society for women. Alpha Delta Pi was founded on sisterhood, values high academic standards and social

responsibility. Their slogans: "First, Finest Forever" and "We live for each other" define their aspirations. With those words in mind, it's no wonder they put on such a great philanthropy. Nationally, Lion Share is done to benefit the Ronald McDonald House, a safe-haven for females with children in hospitals. The Ronald McDonald House is known for fully furnishing the families of terminally ill children. Charlotte Brown, a sophomore child development major from New Orleans and this year's philanthropy chair, believes that "I simply have to walk a mile in their shoes and it makes me want to work one hundred times harder for them."

Here at Southern Miss, the Eta Zeta chapter of Alpha Delta Pi put on a "Night at McAllister's" on October 12th where a portion of the profits were given to the Ronald McDonald House. Also on this night the ladies were accepting pop tabs from cans, which is recognized nationally as a part of Lion Share in order to try to furnish homes for those in need. The following night, an inter-Greek Dodge ball tournament was held in a fraternity bracket and a sorority bracket. Ryan Williamson, a sophomore forensic science major from Luka participated in the event. "It was so much fun...I felt good about helping out ADPi and raising money for their philanthropy." In one of the semi-finals, he single-handedly defeated five players from Pi Kappa Alpha. He stated with a wide grin on his face, obviously still giddy about the triumph, "It was a way for the Greek community to give back, and it had the added value of being a lot



Sigma Nu Mike Moulder used an interesting tactic by pouring water onto his food at the Lion's Share Challenge hamburger eating contest.

Photo by Michael Swords

of fun."

While some participants were dodging and diving left and right, another event held at the Payne center that night was also an eating contest. This year the men were given the task of eating six hamburgers under a time constraint, while the ladies had homemade cookies that were made to look like hamburgers. Chi Omega team participant Allison Coon, a freshmen general studies major from Pascagoula came in second place in the women's division. "Those cookies were so good, I think I ate like twenty!"

In the end, Lion Share was a great way to kick off the philanthropic calendar for Southern Miss. It certainly set the bar high. What's next for Lion Share? Megan Crawford, a junior public relations major from Pearl River who is hoping to take Charlotte's place one day commented: "We are looking forward to similar successes, and are excited for the very real possibility of another philanthropy to compliment Lion Share and thus the top-off point for how much we can help gets that much higher."

Story by Jack Spitz



The lineup of competitors struggle to get down a few more morsels. The contest helps fund Ronald McDonald House.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Winner Joe Pace, a Phi Kappa Tau, devoured an entire plateful of burgers.

Photo by Samantha Stanford

TRICKS AND TREATS

STUDENT SPEECH AND HEARING ASSOCIATION HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

There is an old saying that goes along the lines of: "an apple a day keeps the doctor away." During the month of October though, the last thing on anyone's mind is how to keep the dentist happy. It's all about candy and sweets and treats. Yep, it's that time of year again—Halloween. You may find yourself reliving your favorite childhood memories by dressing up as an icon of pop culture like Hannah Montana or paying tribute to the late Michael Jackson. You may be one of those who end up dancing the night away at some fantastic party that will be talked about until after the thanksgiving break. Or you might just find yourself hanging out with some close friends. If you are one of the lucky ones, you and your sweetheart are just spending the night cozying up watching a scary film. Either way Halloween can sure be a great night for any and every Golden Eagle.

All of the party aspects aside, Halloween can also be a great time to give back. One of the bare essentials to any childhood was Halloween. Going door to door asking for candy draped in goofy, creepy, or adorable attire was the be all and end all of holidays. Take that, and add charity as a side dish, and you have the SSHA Halloween Carnival. On the twenty-ninth of October of this year at USM, the Student Speech and Hearing Association, (also known as the SSHA) held their annual Halloween Carnival. The SSHA falls under the Department of Speech and Hearing Services here at the University

of Southern Mississippi which contains the Dubard School, a school for children with hearing and speaking disabilities, A Speech and Hearing clinic, and a Children's Center for Communication and Development. Their Halloween Carnival is held each year for all of the children in the Dubard School.

The SSHA sponsors a variety of community service events, like an Easter egg hunt, an annual Christmas party, and of course, their Halloween Carnival. Headed by the leadership of President Lill Netterville and Vice President Betsey Mitchell, together they aimed to make this year's carnival the

best yet. With events where children could come and use tickets that were purchased by parents, an array of games were set up for the children all over with one goal: candy. Kids came dressed to impress, and their go-bags getting continually heavier showing nothing but success.



...ny Fountain, freshman speech communication major from Hattiesburg, who also serves as the treasurer for SSHA explained: "It was a much better turn out than last year, we had it much more out of control. Seeing the smiles on all of the kids' faces, is motivation enough for us to go hard, and even harder next year." She is providing such a humble treat each year. It won't wait to see how they make next year's even better.

Story by Jack Spitz

All Photos by Samantha Stanford



Senior Betsy Mitchell helps a participant prepare to fish for a treat. Student volunteers were essential in preparing this year's carnival.



Lili Matterville, senior, secretly attaches a treat to a child's fishing line. Treat-fishing was one of the most popular activities at this year's event.



Anna Fowler and Jessica Garner help a student volunteer get ready to play a carnival game.

Anime Club

Costume Contest

In room 120 of the Walker Science Building, a large projector screen flashes an animated parody of the infamous shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*, followed by a vivacious girl racing to deliver Ramen Noodles and an epic battle involving giant robots. Are these strange images part of a lecture on the effects of hallucinogenic drugs? No.

Each Thursday evening, the Southern Miss Anime Club, a small but dedicated group of students, gathers for an evening of anime (Japanese Animation) and socializing. While the club meets each week, any regular attendee can tell tonight is different. Elf ears and black robes abound. A student dressed as Mario engages in a debate with another student sporting a green wig. Tonight is the Anime Club's annual Halloween costume contest.

Founded in late 2003, the Anime Club has had a small but steady membership since its inception. Meeting for three hours each Thursday and sometimes for ten hours on Saturday, the passion for anime is apparent among the ten-to-twenty Anime Club members. Even after graduation, alumni continue to return to the club. Zach Vann, a 2008 graduate with a degree in chemistry, signed the charter for the Anime Club in 2003 and continues to visit the club at least once a year. "It originally started as a Japanese Culture Club," he said. "There



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2



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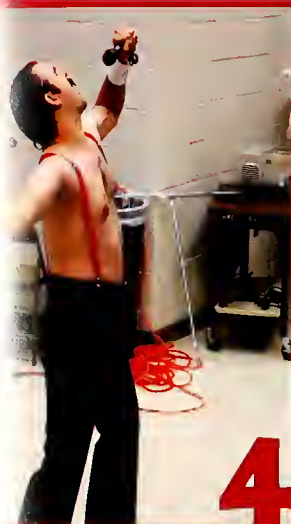
has been a shift from anime as an inroad to culture to anime in and of itself." Brady McWilliams, a junior information technology major from McGee also notices the ways in which the Anime Club has changed. "My first year was generally a lot stricter with rolling from anime to anime," the three year veteran says, "Now we're more dedicated to watching an anime through." Despite the change in the nature and customs of the club, the Anime Club has maintained a consistent but inconspicuous presence in the USM community.

One of the traditions maintained by Anime Club is their annual Halloween costume contest. Each member of the club wears a costume of his or her invention, usually drawing upon anime or video games for inspiration. Prizes, in the form of candy, DVDs and manga (Japanese comic books), are awarded for the best costume in categories such as "Best Anime Character," "Best Video Game Character" and "Crowd Favorite." Those who don't win a prize in a specific category still take home a bag of candy.

While the Anime Club will continue to

watch different anime, and each costume contest will bring new incarnations of their favorite characters, one thing about the Anime Club will never change—it will always provide a forum for Southern Miss students interested in Japanese Culture and Anime to meet and share their interests.

Story by Hannah Ryan
All Photos by Gillian Borden



1, 2, 3: Vincent Davis from Hattiesburg dressed as Mario prepares to show the crowd his character's routine. "It's me, Mario!" he says as he lands from an epic jump.

4, 5: Johnny Eric Hesselberg, a senior dressed as Freddie from Cromartie Highschool. The anime character, Freddie is assumed to be a mute, but as Hesselberg shows his fellow anime appreciators, Freddie actually has a wonderful singing voice.

6: Members and alumni of the Anime Club take part in the 2009 Costume Contest. All members competed for a variety of prizes that include DVD's, manga and candy.

STEP SHOWS

Showing up and showing out

Months of planning, weeks of practices, and days of rehearsing were what it took to put on the National Pan-Hellenic Council Homecoming Step Show. Each fraternity and sorority of the "Divine Nine" was part of the show, the first in many years. During this event, each organization created a theme to go

along with their steps, struts, and hops. The themes ranged from "Coming to America," by the men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. to "Oompa Loompa Land," by the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"The step show was exciting and highly entertaining," said Gabrielle Austin, a

freshman entertainment industry major from Biloxi. "There was never a dull moment."

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., whose theme was "Life: The Movie," utilized the majority of the stage to get their theme across, even going so far as to use each other to create a table in the "Boom

Boom Room" scene. The ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. incorporated their theme, "Welcome to the Dollhouse," in every aspect of the show, from their uniform hair style to their technical stepping.

"We started preparing for this show over the summer," said Tierra Clemmons, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Columbus. "We came up with the theme and started developing brand new steps, transitions, and came up with creative ideas to make the show unique."

"We [also] started doing the NPHC Homecoming step shows out of the historical traditions that many of our organizations have and also as a fundraiser to help and the numerous charities and philanthropies we embark on throughout the year," said NPHC President Brandon Dobson, a senior community health major from Jackson.

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. paid homage to their past brothers by playing the roles of Omegas from the 70s, 80s, 90s and the Millennium. No organization paid respect to the icon Michael Jackson better than the ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Although they were few in number, these ladies stepped hard and big to pay their respect to one of the greatest performers of all time.

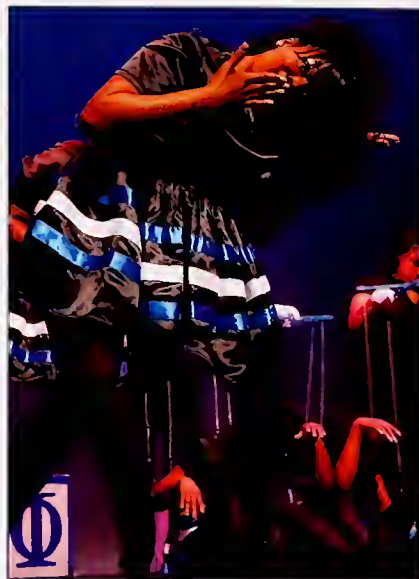
A product more than a decade in the making, the Divine Nine of the National Pan-Hellenic Council united to make the show a success. The people, songs, and themes may change, but one thing that remains constant is the thrill of victory.

Story by Eryka Wallace

Members of the Theta Eta chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. gained high crowd appeal from their "Coming to America" themed show.

Photo by Javokeo Harris





Top Left: Larry McCook Jr. and James Darby Jr., members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., took home first place in the NPHC step show.

Photo by Javokco Harris

Top Middle: Members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Brittany Millsap and Monic Gordon acted as oompa lumps in their Willy Wonka themed show.

Photo by Javokco Harris

Top Right: Ebony Bolling along with her sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. won first place in females for their dolled them act at the fall step show.

Photo by Samantha Stanford

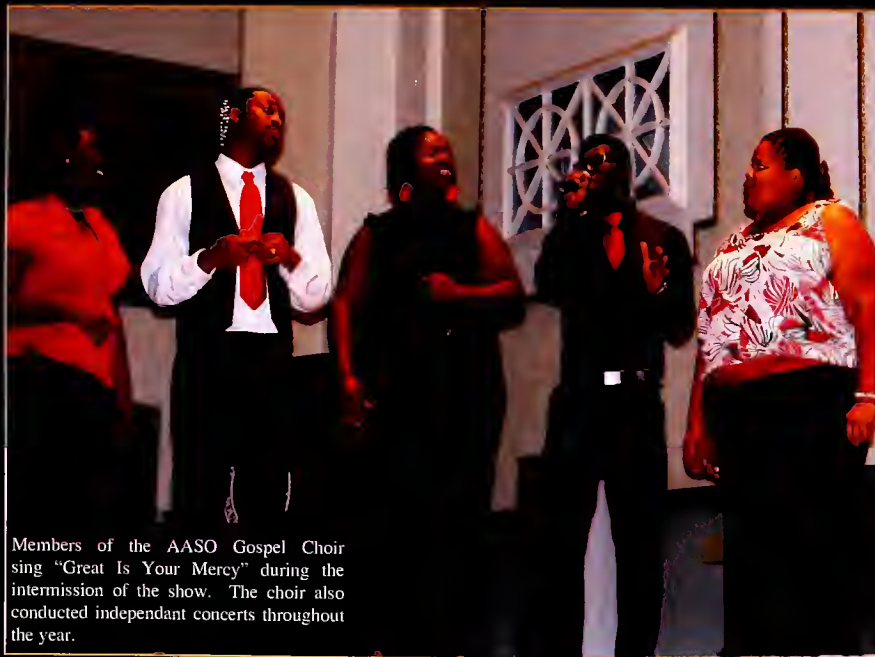
Bottom Right: The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Iota Kappa chapter, pay tribute to the men of Kappa Alpha Psi by imitating them in their step show.

Photo by Javokco Harris

APOLLO

It's Showtime at the

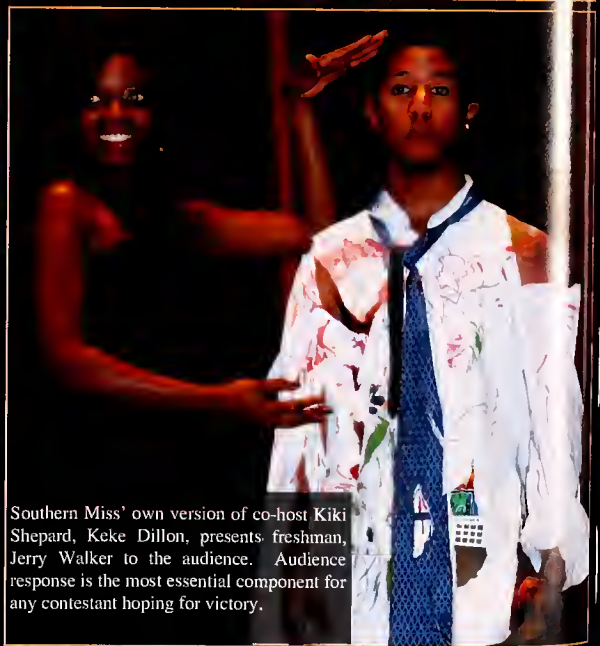
APOLLO



Members of the AASO Gospel Choir sing "Great Is Your Mercy" during the intermission of the show. The choir also conducted independent concerts throughout the year.



Senior Ebony Fears, this year's winner, belts out "Call Tyrone" by Erykah Badu. The crowd responded with thunderous applause.



Southern Miss' own version of co-host Kiki Shepard, Keke Dillon, presents freshman, Jerry Walker to the audience. Audience response is the most essential component for any contestant hoping for victory.

...dies and gentlemen, let the talent
begin," exclaimed Alesia Haynes,
President of the Afro-American Student
Organization, better known here at Southern
Mississippi as AASO. The event, called "Showtime
at the Apollo", was held October 15th
and was as an opportunity for students to
showcase their musical, dance, and vocal talents.

The event, which is inspired by the original
Showtime at the Apollo Theatre in New
York City, was held in Bennett Auditorium,
filled to a full capacity crowd.

...Fears, a senior from West Point,
Mississippi, was named the overall winner,
after playing Erykah Badu's big hit "Call
Me If You Get Love". The occupational therapy major
was also honored to be named the overall
winner. "I went out there, had fun, and I'm glad
the audience enjoyed it!"

The annual show, sponsored by AASO, is
more than a school spirit event, as well as to
provide free entertainment for students. "I'm
thrilled to be the turnout each year, and I hope
we live up to the standard set by the actual
Apollo in New York," says Alesia. After
weeks of preparation, the show was a hit and
brought in over five acts.

AASO also has subgroups that perform at
the Showtime at the Apollo, including
a dance team and gospel choir. The dance
team is a tribute to the late Michael Jackson,
while the gospel choir featured a four-song
collaboration, showcasing eight octaves. "The
Apollo was a well performed event that
brought out some of the best talent of Southern
Mississippi," says freshman Alexander Camardelle,
a health education major from Mobile. "I was
very entertained with the hosts, and you could
tell the entire audience was loving it."

The main entertainment of the night
"Black to the Future", consisted of an up and
coming rap duo who shocked everyone by
throwing cash money into the crowd—which
glorified the pair into become the big hit of
the evening. "Their music is always good,
but once they started throwing out cash, it
got crazy," says sophomore Ashley Betts, an
accounting major from Lauderdale. "They are
going to be remember for a long time for doing
that!"

A tradition of Apollo, the audience
holds the final say in whether or not an act
can continue performing. If a majority of the
crowd is displeased, a cry of "Boooo..." can
be bestowed upon the act and "The Sandman"
can forcefully escort the unwanted act off the
stage. Each act is allowed a set time to impress
and dazzle the audience, and if they do not
perform, they are swept off the stage and the
next act is brought forth to try and entertain.

"Watching The Sandman take the acts
off the stage was on of the best parts of the
evening," says sophomore Britney Moore, an
athletic training major from Meridian, who
thoroughly enjoyed the show: "I'll be back
next year for sure."

Following in tradition, the Showtime and
the Apollo next year is sure to draw in crowds
looking for a night of entertaining fun. "We
just want it to keep getting bigger and better,
the more participants, the more talent," says
Ebony, who plans to attend the event again. "I
may be graduating this May, but you can be
sure to find me next year when The Sandman
comes back to Apollo."

Story by Marie John
All photos by JaVoko Harris

Freshman Shakea Winford and the other
AASO Dance Team members danced to
Aaliyah's "Rock the Boat." Clad in all white,
the dancers created sense of tranquility.

OCTOBER RECAP



Junior Anastasia Talley takes her place in front of the green screen to shoot a commercial for Southern Miss. Open auditions were held to find talent from across the student body.

Photo by Jesse Bass

Background by Freddie Lance Newman

The second annual Delta Glamour brought in vendors from across Hattiesburg. The night of health and wellness was put on by the ladies of Delta Gamma to raise money for Services for Sight.

Photo by JaVoke Harris





Nelson A. Rodriguez, Courtney Sussman,
and Jamie Shores in the 2009 production
of *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball*.

Photo by Erin Wojtala



Fred Miller won the Basketball Slam
Dunk Contest for this incredible jump.
The contest was put on by Eagle-Dominion
and the Payne Center as part of their
annual Thunder Night at the Payne Center.
Photo by Christopher Bostick

EAGLE AL OZA



Photos by Christopher Bostick

As Southern Miss nears its final football game, the excitement for Eaglepalooza spreads across the Hattiesburg campus as well as the surrounding community. People await this downtown event every year, anticipating both the bands that perform along with the enjoyment of the Hattiesburg community and the Southern Miss community.

Every year, countless hours of preparation are put towards making Eaglepalooza a success. "Eaglepalooza is held each year by the Southern Miss Government Association," said sports management major Brian Harris, president of River Ridge, Louisiana, one of three Executive Directors for Eaglepalooza. "In SGA, our Eaglepalooza splits itself among different departments, everything from production and the sponsors and even the designs. We work to make the event catered to both the students at Southern Miss and the community so that everyone enjoys the show. This year's performers include R&B-flavored S.M.A.A.S.H., The Monks, and the Latin-influenced band Antasmo. Last was Girl Talk, who played every kind of music genre together. The celebration of the bands together made it a great night."

For both the audience and the bands, Hattiesburg is the ideal oasis for everyone to congregate and enjoy the night. Bands have previously performed in Hattiesburg at the Thirsty Hippo, and moving from that intimate atmosphere to that of Main Hall was a different in that it gave me much more freedoms," commented Gregg Gillis, the man behind the turntable better known as Girl Talk from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The overall vibe of the atmosphere was festive. It was a nice cool night, perfect

for the environment that I performed in. The area was contextually very different in that we were in the middle of downtown in an open area, but still contained within the boundaries of the street, which kept the energy of the crowd contained. Performing at Eaglepalooza was very exciting, as I was able to feed off of the audience, which always brings every performance I do to extreme levels of insanity."



The atmosphere of the night during Eaglepalooza helps to build the feeling of community amongst the people who attend the event with the different bands that perform. "There are so many different people who attend Eaglepalooza, all joining together for a night of fun," said Mary Monks, a senior forensic science major from Bay St. Louis. "Everyone has a connection with everyone around them, creating a bond through the music. The bands that play are so diverse, and are personalized to fit different kinds of people. If someone comes to see one band that they like, they are more likely to stick around

and stay for the others, which get more people to attend."

Saving the best for last, this year's biggest crowd pleaser of the night was Girl Talk, who mixed music in a rave fashion while also interacting with audience members on and off the stage. "Being able to dance on stage with Girl Talk was the best feeling ever," said Monks with a touch of nostalgia. "It was a crazy feeling

"I was able to feed off of the audience, which always brings every performance I do to extreme levels of insanity."

just being around the Girl Talk DJ who had so much energy along with everyone around me who was feeding off of him. I was able to look out into the audience, and the crowd filled the street to the end of the block with everyone dancing to the beat. The experience filled me with a rush of craziness that I can't even explain!"

"The experience I had at Eaglepalooza was a great incorporation of entertainment, school spirit, and the biggest dance party of my life," said junior Josh McKibben, a physical education major from Mt. Zion, Illinois who enjoyed Girl Talk from inside the massive crowd. "It was a lot of fun

because everyone was involved, and you could tell that everyone there was having a good time as they bounced back and forth to the beat."

With so many things happening at once, the backstage crew had a lot on their hands to help make the show run smoothly. "I had the job during the night to make sure that everyone was where they needed to be at all times," said Harris. "I owe a lot of thanks to SMAC who worked hard to make sure that the bands moved on and off stage in a timely fashion, and they also helped to make the pep rally a success. Everything ran very well with great performances, which made it the best Eaglepalooza yet."

Over the years, Eaglepalooza has begun to transition towards finding more local hidden talent. "In the past, the school has always shot for getting big name bands to perform, but now we are getting more local bands that have a following in the great Gulf South," said Monks. "This helps the local bands get their names out to the college students at Southern Miss. Since Eaglepalooza has these different types of bands, it helps to introduce people to different types of music. These bands give performances just as great as a big artist because a great band can entertain anyone."

As the final performance ends, the crowd is filled with a bittersweet feeling—bitter in that the night has to end and sweet because the people in attendance know they will never forget this night, only being able to look forward to what performances Eaglepalooza has in store for next year.

Story by John Barr

Girl Talk - Grupa Fantasma S.M.A.S.H. - Fodlon Brothers

- 1 Becca Macias celebrates as Girl Talk takes to the stage. Although he did not have many fans when he arrived, Girl Talk ended the night with hundreds of new ones.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

- 2 Freshman Tyresse Bracy "jerks" to Girl Talk's moshed mix of the popular 2009 song, "You're a Jerk." Girl Talk mixed older hits with the songs of today.

Photo by Kiana Patrick

- 3 Keely Scott gives a spirited shout during Girl Talk's opening. Her reaction was by no means unique: the DJ received some of the loudest cheers at Eaglepalooza.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

- 4 Girl Talk supprises the audience by jumping up on the DJ stand. Girl Talk's shows are known for their unpredictability and energy.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

- 5 Herman Wilson of S.M.A.A.S.H. sings Southern Miss' fight song with an R&B flare. This hip-rock group combines electronic music with live instruments.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

- 6 Jose Galeano of the Grupa Fantasma lays down a strong beat during their performance. Their music is a mix of styles called "Latin funk."

Photo by Kiana Patrick







58th Annual
Chi Omega Songfest

As the leaves begin to fall and the joyful Christmas holidays begin to approach, the entire Southern Miss campus and Hattiesburg community anticipate a long standing tradition that brings the holiday cheer to the entire community—Songfest. Held annually for nearly six decades, Songfest serves as a representation of the hard work and dedication of the Chi Omega sorority members to bring unity to the Greek community on Southern Miss' campus.

The choral competition between student organizations is performed in Reed Green Coliseum each year. Students, family, and the public are invited to join in on the fun. This past year, Make-A-Wish child Tanner Maghee served as a guest judge for the competition and chose his favorite performance. "It is amazing to interact with a child I know I helped grant a wish to. It's a humbling experience that I am very thankful for," said Songfest assistant director Ali Blackledge, a sophomore

public relations major from Laurel. Make-A-Wish children can choose one of five wishes: to go, to be, to meet, to have, or to give.

Each year, the money raised by Chi Omega during Songfest supports the Make-a-Wish Foundation. "This year we raised over \$26,000 for Make-a-Wish, which grants around five wishes," said senior Chi Omega Liz McKean, a mass communication and journalism major from Mobile. "A unique aspect of our

philanthropy is that Make-a-Wish gets the money that we raise in a fun way to be used toward Make-a-Wish children in Hattiesburg and surrounding communities. This truly lets us see the outcome of our hard work that we put into Songfest. This year, the ladies of Chi Omega held a drawing for over eleven grand prizes. With each ticket costing only one dollar, patrons had the chance to win anything from a signed Brett Favre football to a Belk spa package.

chosen as the overall winner of the competition for the 58th Annual Songfest, Delta Gamma sorority thrilled the audience with a unique rendition of "Joyful, Joyful." "Delta Gamma is always excited to participate in the Omega's Songfest in order to support their philanthropy while also participating with all of Greek Life in a fun way," said Delta Gamma Songfest chair Lauren Waldrop, a senior in business technology education from Brandon.

Delta Omega holds their women to the same standard by which each sister chooses to live. "The main part of our philosophy, which is our creed, states 'To love earnestly, to speak kindly, to act bravely,'" said Kayla McLain, a senior majoring in nursing from Covington, Louisiana. "This is what we want to exemplify in our everyday life. When I was looking to join a sorority, I was drawn for these ideals and was able to find a group of women who held the same values while valuing their reputation as well as their relations with others."

Delta Omega has found itself a much needed organization on campus due to its continued commitment to community service and community relations. As the semester continues to change and another year approaches, the Southern Miss community will soon prepare to bring the holiday cheer once again with Songfest, continuing the long tradition of festive cheer and charitable donation set by Delta Omega.

Story by John Barr

All Photos by Christopher Bostick



Delta Delta Delta, the last year's Songfest winners, served as special entertainment. Tri Delta performed "Walking in a Greek Wonderland" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town."



Senior Kimberly Williams' father stage performing tribute to Michael Jackson. Williams, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., first place to compete in Songfest.



Seniors Mark Hamrick and Chad Byrd sang a mash up of Jason Mraz' "I'm Yours" and The Kings of Leon's "Use Somebody" with their Pi Kappa Phi brothers. Pi Kappa Phi claimed first place for fraternities.



Senior Mike Moulder dressed as an owl during Sigma Nu's "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree." Sigma Nu won third place for fraternities.



Dixie Darlings

The Black & Gold Strut

Dixie Darlings help get football fans excited about the game by marching in the Eaglewalk before each home game.
Photo by Ron Green

Gold poms, white boots, and a high kick that impresses anyone is just what one can find when watching the Southern Miss Dixie Darlings perform. Each year, members are chosen to carry on the tradition of a high caliber performing team with a unique strut and sassy style.

Ari Velasquez, a sophomore nursing

major from Petal, has wanted to be a Dixie Darling ever since she was seven years old. "Being a member of the Southern Miss Dixie Darling dance team was always one of my dreams, and now that dream has come true. I enjoy being part of the team because I have been dancing ever since I was five, and I can look back when the team first started in

1954 and we are still just as strong."

When looking back on what added fuel to the fire for her Dixie Darling love, Ari commented: "My most memorable moment was the first game of my freshman year. When I heard them play, 'Are You From Dixie' I knew I just had to go out there and do my best." This is Ari's second year on the

team and she still gets that "wow feeling of performing." The team, which is famous for those white boots and high kicks, are the main entertainer during half time performances at football games and during the Friday night at the Fountain pep rallies.

Miya Warfield, a freshmen Madison native, wanted to try out for many reasons

"My mom wanted me to tryout because she knew that this would be a great opportunity for me. I defiantly enjoy being a Dixie Darling because I am able to do what I love while belonging to a distinguished group on the Southern Miss campus."

The accounting major has performed at three of the pep rallies before home games in this season alone. "I love the pep rallies because the student body gets to see a completely different side of the Dixie Darlings. I also enjoyed meeting the alumni during homecoming, they have so many great stories to tell and I can not wait until I am able to add all my great memories to the new Dixie Darlings." Each year, alumni are invited back on the team to perform a routine, showing that talent and dedication of Dixie Darlings last and stand the test of time.

Freshman Amber Mcraïne from Leavenworth is a speech pathology major and made the team during the first rounds of tryouts. "The love of dance made me want to be a Dixie Darling. I just didn't want to stop dancing after high school. Being on the can be long and time consuming sometimes, but I love to dance and the thrill I get from being on the football field makes everything worth it."

Each week, Dixie Darlings are required to be in three workout hours apart from the two hour practices with the Pride. With all the practices, Amber says that "spending time together brings us closer...the girls are my best friends. They push me to perform well and strive for the best."

Each year, the Dixie Darlings dazzle the crowd with their struts, but it's the dedication of each team member that truly makes the organization stand out.

Story by Arielle Edwards



The Dixie Darlings are an integral part of each halftime show. Halftime during Homecoming's game against Tulane was particularly dazzling.

Photo by Samantha M. Light



Lauren Smithhart, a junior Dixie Darling, marches down Hardy Street in the Homecoming Day Parade accompanied by her teammates.

Photo by Samantha M. Light

Cheerleading

RAISING SPIRITS TO THE TOP



Summer Spillman pulls a "lib" to pump up the student section at the Homecoming game against Tulane.

Photo by Samantha M. Light

They are the twenty six men and women who can change the outcome of the game, even off of the field. They are the "Spirit Squads," here at the Southern Miss. They are the college students who can best represent true Golden Eagle spirit. They are your Southern Miss cheerleaders and mascot for 2009-2010.

Composed of two squads, one co-ed and the other exclusively female, the cheerleading team is known for raising the spirits of fans at the football and basketball games, as well as the women's volleyball games. And with practices Monday through Thursday from seven to ten, Taylor Mulford, a member of the all girl squad and sophomore elementary education major from Mandeville, Louisiana, agreed that "being on the Southern Miss cheerleading squad has taught me not only how to balance my time in college, but also how a lot of hard work pays off in the long run."

Freshman Anna Cubbage, a math major from George County and co-ed squad member, explains that "Southern Miss cheerleading definitely helped me have more confidence in myself. The chance to become a part of a team that is like a family has made me push myself to be better, and to succeed. I think that our performances show our confidence in not only ourselves, but in our ability to trust

our teammate's at every event."

With Coach Wendy Robinson's twenty year experience in cheerleading, along with Graduate Assistant and UCA instructor Kayla Sheasby as the Southern Miss cheerleader's backbone, both squads are fully supported. With such support these students are sure to excel in not only cheerleading, but in their educations as students here at Southern Miss. Keeping a minimum GPA of a 2.0, high spirits at all times, and dedication to their squad, these cheerleaders will remind you that becoming involved in the university will only benefit you throughout your collegiate career and beyond.

Thanks to the University of Southern Mississippi's cheerleading squad, many members have been changed for the better. These students are making lifelong friends and many memories. These students are the face of school spirit and dedication. A good example of this transformation would be Matt Wilbanks, a freshman co-ed team member and sports management major from Asheville, North Carolina. He realized that "because of the Southern Miss cheerleading team, I smile a lot more, and people have noticed that I'm a lot happier overall."

Story by Alexandria Atchinson

Jamie Hale rouses the crowd at Friday Night at the Fountain. Cheerleaders are not limited to just football and basketball games, they also participate in other sports and activities.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Rain or shine, the Southern Miss cheerleaders battle the elements each and every homegame. Kirsti Potts pumps up the student section during the November 21st game against Tulsa.

Photo by Casey Clingan

FALL INTRAMURALS



As the light of the sun begins to simmer away, the bright lights on the intramural fields take its place. Students from all backgrounds come together for some friendly competition.

One of the major intramurals of the fall semester is flag football. "My pledge class had a team together, and it really brought all of us closer together because we had to work together with everything from shopping for team uniforms to making a play to score some points," said Taylor Thurman, a freshman Kappa Delta majoring in general studies from Pearl.

Meeting people during the intramural games adds a personal aspect to the sport. "When my team plays dodge ball, we get to hang out with our sorority sisters and people from the other team while having a friendly competition," said sophomore Chi Omega Chelsea Borries, a business administration major from Vancleave.

The key to getting the most out of intramurals simply relies on having fun. "My sorority's kickball team loves to just go out and have fun, whether it involves wearing face paint and crazy socks or just showing off how not athletic I am," explains Sara

Plunkett, a junior Phi Mu from Tupelo majoring in theatre, with a chuckle.

Joey Tramuta, a sophomore political science major from Mobile, also plays for the fun of the game with the Catholic Student Association team. "I like being on the bowling team because it is a really fun sport that is basically a battle of you vs. the pins."

When it comes to playing intramurals with the fraternity league, the competition reaches the next level as winning means bragging rights on the row. "Our team just came together as one, and we played hard, doing everything it took to win," said se-

nior kinesiotherapy major Tristan Pryor, a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Waffleball Championship team from Mobile.

As each weeknight arrives, teams from across campus return to the intramural field or the Payne Center in attempt to win another battle against a rival team or simply to forget about the worries of school for the next fifty minutes on the field.

Story by John B...

2



3

leaving it all on the field...

1

Dominique West lays down to taunt his opponents during a dodgeball game in the Payne Center.

Photo by Michael Swords

2

Freshman Brian Rousset looks to throw his frisbee down field during an Ultimate Frisbee Tournament vs. Pike.

Photo by Gillian Borden

3

Senior Business Administration major Joe Mordica, leaps away from an incoming ball during a cut-throat game of intramural dodgeball.

Photo by Michael Swords



The Luckyday Flag Football Team huddles together prior to their first game of the season. Teams can be formed by organizations or unaffiliated friends.

Photo by Kiana Patrick

Junior Jimmy Atkin rushes away from his opponent on SAE's team in order to score a touchdown for the Pi Kappa Phi Flag Football team. Flag football is one of the most popular and intense intramurals every year.

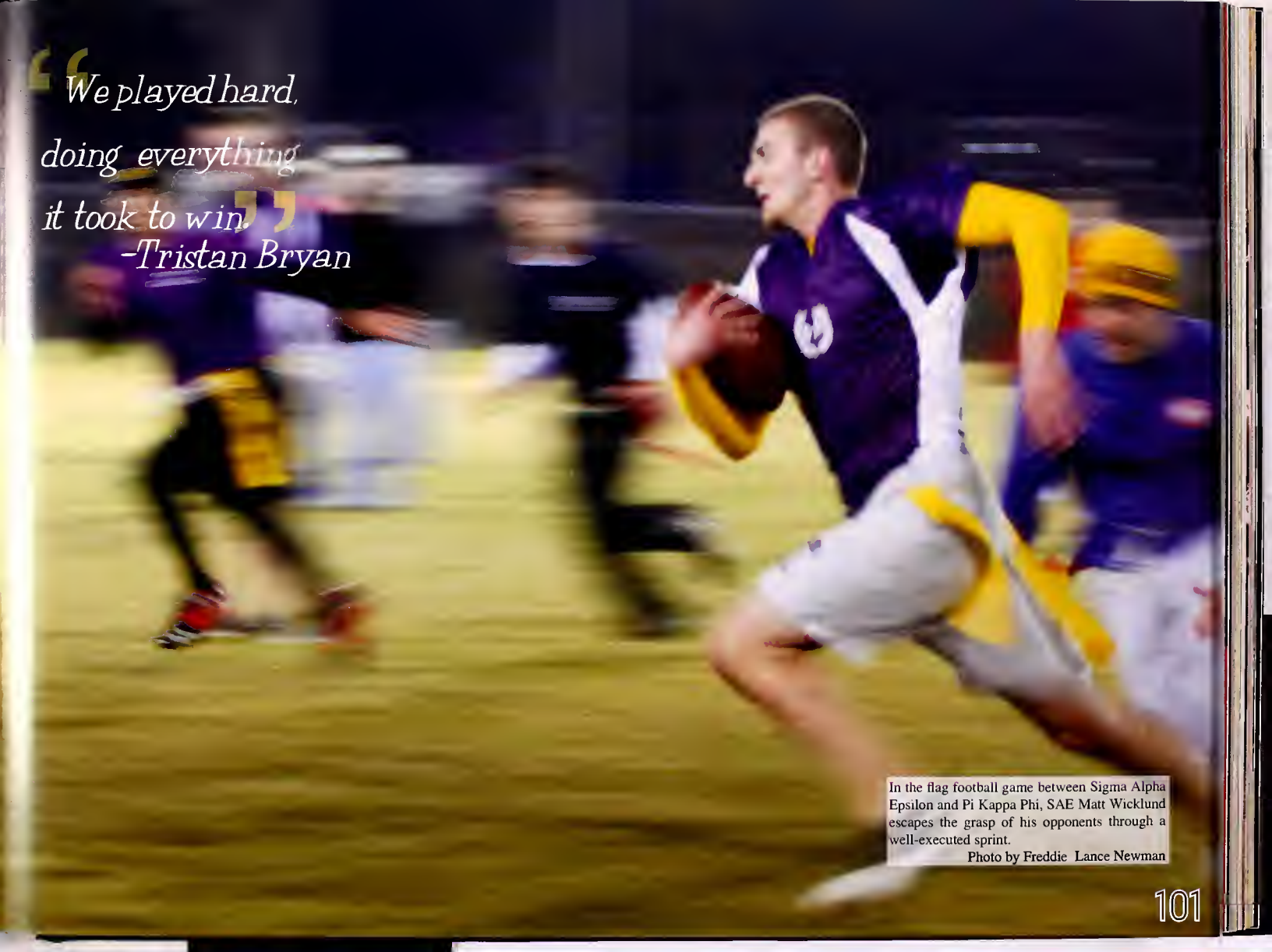
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Junior Brad Hopkins stares down his dodgeball opponents as he wonders who will be his next target.

Photo by Michael Swords

*“We played hard,
doing everything
it took to win.”
-Tristan Bryan*



In the flag football game between Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Pi Kappa Phi, SAE Matt Wicklund escapes the grasp of his opponents through a well-executed sprint.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

P R O B A T E S

BEHIND THE MASK

Eric Hern, a new member of the Kappa Iota chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi reveals himself without his mask at their fall probate.



Major excitement filled the week of November 17-20th, as the newest additions of National Pan-Hellenic Council made their first public appearances, announcing their newfound fraternities and sororities. New members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. were presented to the students of Southern Miss.

After the long intake processes from the organizations in the Divine Nine, the oh-so-smooth brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi presented the Kases of Khaotik Kontroversy on November 16, 2009 at Vernon Dahmer Park. The new members made their presence known with the famous shimmies and cane twirling that the Kappas do with ease.

Next, on November 17th, 2009 the Q-Dawgs presented the New Ques at Club Onyx. Their probate was held on the chapter's Founder's Day. The new Omegas wowed the crowd with their immaculate stepping.

The ladies of the Divine Nine then

took over the NPHC's probates, starting with the illustrious ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha. On November 18, 2009 The Pristine Pearls of Perfection were presented in the Thad Cochran Ballroom. This group had the largest line for fall 2009, coming out with forty-five members.

"Being able to show our friends and family how close we had gotten made us all feel great," said Keona Anderson, a junior broadcast journalism major from Cleveland, Mississippi. "I felt excited because now I could be a part of a sisterhood that provides service to all."

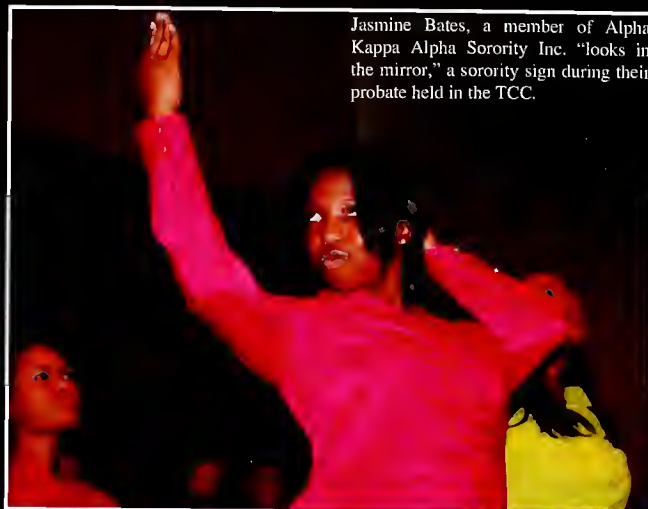
The ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. introduced their Rare Editions of an Indestructible Dynamic on November 19th, 2009. The new devastating divas arrived in an 18-wheel truck.

No matter their allegiance or affiliation, those hopeful students who took their first steps into Greek life have begun a lifelong journey of discovery.

Story by Eryka Wallace
All Photo by Brett Payne



New initiates of Alpha Kappa Alpha strike a graceful "ivy" pose during their probate.



Jasmine Bates, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. "looks in the mirror," a sorority sign during their probate held in the TCC.



New members of Delta Sigma Theta sing a sorority song during their probate.

Miss University of Southern Mississippi



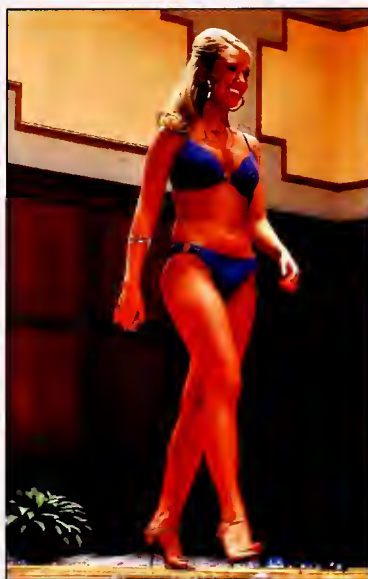
Former Miss USM Maggie Evans crowns the new Miss University of Southern Mississippi, Kristen Benigno.

Photo by Eli Baylis

What a night to remember for the even young women that competed for the title of Miss University of Southern Mississippi in the Miss Mississippi Preliminary Pageant held in Bennett Auditorium on November 13th.

Excitement filled the auditorium as the girls debuted on the stage in front of friends, family, and the judges faced with the task of determining the winner. The pageant has been a tradition on the Southern Miss campus since 1947 and serves as an opportunity for talented and accomplished young women to compete for the chance to represent Southern Miss in the Miss Mississippi Pageant to be held in Vicksburg every July. The Miss University of Southern Mississippi Pageant, organized and directed by the Student Government Association, is an official preliminary competition to both the Miss Mississippi and Miss America pageants, and gives female students the chance to compete for scholarship and money.

Kristen Benigno, a junior speech communication major from Laurel, won the title of Miss University of Southern Mississippi. "Being named Miss University of Southern Mississippi is something I've wanted to do since I first stepped foot on campus, so hearing my name called out was almost surreal," Benigno said, "I've imagined it so many times, but couldn't believe it when it actually happened." During the pageant, she performed "What Kind of Fool Am I" from the musical "Stop the World I Want to Get Off," and her voice sent chills through the audience's heart. Kristen's



Benigno, a junior from Laurel, excelled in all four stages of the competition. This summer she will be making her fourth appearance as a contestant in the Miss Mississippi Pageant.

Photo by JaVocko Harris



(Left) For the Q & A, Benigno was asked about the troops in Afghanistan and she believes in, "finishing the job that we started, but making sure we have an exit plan so that our troops can return home safely"

Photo by Eli Baylis

(Below) For the talent portion, Benigno sang a touching rendition of "What Kind of Fool Am I."

Photo by Kiana Patrick



platform is Confidently You: Building Character and Self-esteem in Young Women, inspired by her own experience as an adolescent with low self-esteem. "Being confident," said Benigno, "is the key to loving yourself and learning to love others."

This July, Kristen will move on to compete in Vicksburg in the Miss Mississippi Pageant. "I love Southern Miss and am so blessed to be able to represent the university at the Miss Mississippi pageant in July. This will be my 4th summer returning to Vicksburg, but this year is going to be extra special. Being able to represent your university is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I

couldn't be more excited about it. Getting the chance to represent Southern Miss while doing what I love is an absolute dream come true." Kristen's fellow students will be definitely be cheering for her during the competition Comprised of interview, swimsuit, platform, talent, and formalwear, Kristen hopes to bring home the glory of the Miss Mississippi title back to Hattiesburg.

Story by Arielle Edwards

Tees Fore Tots

TRI-DELTA'S SWINGING FOR A CAUSE



Lauren Smith, a senior, and Kaitlyn Bosely, a junior, run the raffle that helped raise some extra cash at Tees Fore Tots.

Many volunteers from the Hattiesburg community supported Tees Fore Tots at Hattiesburg country club. This event, with Tri Delta Triple Play, helped Delta Delta Delta raise over \$20,000 for Saint Jude's.



Each year, the Delta Delta Delta Sorority on Southern Miss' campus hosts a community wide golf tournament that helps raise money for the chapter's chosen philanthropy: St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. In conjunction with the group's softball tournament called "Tri Delta Triple Play", the golf tournament is famous for bringing in members of the Hattiesburg community to help out such a great cause. "St. Jude never turns away a sick child, and I am honored to say I get to help uphold that amazing dedication," says Ray Larson, general manager of the Corner Market in Oak Grove, who participated for the first

time this year. "I didn't score quite up to my usual game, but hey, I did something even better—I made a difference."

Philanthropy Chairwoman Megan McPhail, a political science major from Hattiesburg, headed up the event with a fresh outlook and a positive attitude. "I wanted to spread the word about the tournament, because people are much more willing to come out and play golf to raise money than just write a check", the sophomore said. "It means so much to me and every other Tri Delta member to see such great support from the community."

"Raising over twenty thousand

dollars during this school year is quite an accomplishment", says junior Jennifer Sansing. "I'm proud to call these girls my sisters and know that St. Jude's has influenced us in such a way...we're blessed to have the opportunity to host all of our philanthropic efforts."

Support from the community is a large factor when setting a goal, and Hattiesburg rose to the occasion. "The amount of support we received is a blessing and I'm thankful for the caring people in and around the community," says Tri Delta President, Sarah Ali, a biochemistry major from Oak Grove. "St. Jude's holds a spot in each Tri Delta's

heart, but knowing how important it is to others is mind-blowing." Each year, members of Delta Delta Delta visit St. Jude's hospital to meet some of the children their hard work goes to, and each year, the philanthropic efforts put forth will surely continue to grow to support both cancer treatment and cancer research for children in need.

All Photos by Kristi Bruister
Story by Marie John

PI BETA PHI'S Arrowstrike

*Pi Beta Phi's Arrowstrike philanthropy
raises money to benefit First Book*

Dr. Seuss once said, "The more you read, the more things you know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." The ladies of Pi Beta Phi Sorority have taken Dr. Seuss' aphorism to heart with their annual philanthropy, Arrowstrike, which benefits literacy-related programs. About 75% of the proceeds generated by Arrowstrike benefit the Pi Beta Phi foundation, which provides scholarship and literacy-related aid to schools. The remainder of the proceeds benefit First Book, an organization that provides books to disadvantaged children.

"25% is a straight donation," says Gracie Cox, Philanthropy Chair of Pi Beta Phi. According to Pi Beta Phi Chapter President, Kasey Mitchell, "We normally raise around \$5,000 and try to increase the amount each year." Arrowstrike 2009 has exceeded this goal and has raised over \$7,000 for the cause of literacy.

The name Arrowstrike puns on the bowling tournament that is a traditional part of the philanthropy. On the origin of the name, Kasey Mitchell says, "We call our philanthropy Arrowstrike because it used to be called 'Arrowpike' and was a volleyball tournament, but since we changed it to bowling, we thought it would be a cute pun to call it ArrowSTRIKE."

Everything about Arrowstrike embodies literacy, down

Junior Chase Osorno prepares to toss the ball during the opening frames of the 2009 Arrowstrike.

to its playful name. In addition to a bowling tournament, Arrowstrike events include a benefit night at Caliente Grill and "Speed Read," a contest in which representatives from student organizations at Southern Miss read as many words from Dr. Seuss as possible in fifteen seconds.

"Dr. Seuss is one of our icons," says Gracie Cox, "who changed the face of children's books." Pi Beta Phi not only promotes literacy through Arrowstrike, but also promotes literacy in Hattiesburg schools, including the Dubard School. "We try to do literacy events on campus and off campus," Gracie says. She emphasizes the importance of spreading the ideas of philanthropy throughout the Greek community: "I just want them to see the spirit of philanthropy and that it's necessary for the community to survive."

While Pi Beta Phi works at different schools every year, "The spirit [of philanthropy] goes on with the teachers we work with," Gracie Cox says. To Gracie, as well as the ladies of Pi Beta Phi and the Greek Community, philanthropy forms an integral part of their activities as a sorority.

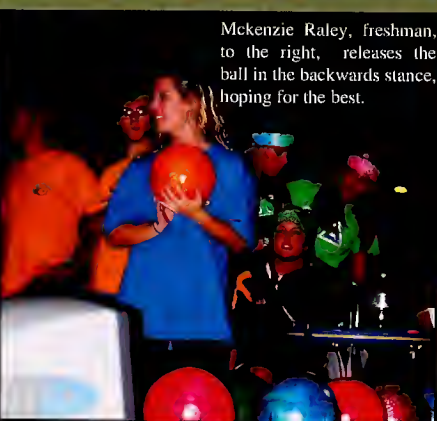
Planning for Arrowstrike starts early. "You want to start thinking about it in May and make calls before recruitment in August," Gracie Cox says. She has already begun to think about next year: "Next year, I think we'll need microphones," she laughs. Despite the hard work that goes into planning and hosting Arrowstrike, Gracie asserts that the effort was worth it. "It was so rewarding to see the amount of good we could do and the involvement of other organizations on campus."

Story by Hannah Ryan
All photos by Jordan Moore

Sophomore Melinda McWilliams is cheered on by her Phi Mu teammates as she focuses on throwing a strike.



Mckenzie Raley, freshman, to the right, releases the ball in the backwards stance, hoping for the best.



Andrew Bantista, freshman, steps into position to get a spare for his team, the Epsilon.

HONORS DAY/BLACK AND GOLD DAY

A FIRST TASTE OF SOUTHERN MISS

For many students at Southern Miss, their first experience with the university came through Eagle Connection, a group of individuals selected from applicants across the Southern Miss student population. Members of this organization serve as ambassadors of the university effectively introducing prospective students to essentially every aspect of Southern Miss.

Ali Blackledge, a sophomore public relations major was inspired to join Eagle Connection herself by the members she met while she was a prospective student.

"I actually met some Eagle Connection members when I was in high school," said Blackledge, a Laurel native. "I came to here and remembered those students and wanted to show other students my love for it and help continue the traditions of Southern Miss."

Black and Gold Day is Eagle Connection's primary event during the school year. This occasion offers high school students and their parents the unique opportunity to not only gain first-hand knowledge about the University of Southern Mississippi, but also attend a football game at the Rock. Throughout the day, Eagle Connection members act as hosts and guide prospective students and their parents to various events.

"[Black and Gold Day] is just a big recruiting event," Eagle Connection Vice President Andrew Brown said. "We invite as many students as we can

and have tour guides across campus to show students the campus."

"Black and Gold day is our main event, but we also do some things with Honors day and do go sees at schools and college fairs," said Brown, a junior biology major from Madison.

Eagle Connection members work diligently to keep up to date on Southern Miss information pertinent to incoming freshman and relay that information to prospective students. Through campus tours and informative meetings, these campus envoys discuss admission requirements, scholarship information, how to succeed throughout one's college career, and basic facts about Southern Miss with future golden eagles.

"I think we really are the face of Southern Miss," said, sophomore nursing major and Hattiesburg native, Ashlynn Martin. "When new students come in we recruit them. We give walking tours and driving tours." Currently boasting over sixty members, Eagle Connection is a student organization that strives for success. Breanne Hancock, the graduate assistant for the group, hopes that, "Eagle Connection members puts the name of Southern Miss with a friendly face and draws potential students in. It's all about making students feel welcome and at home here."

Story by Marika Smith



Leslie Brumfield leads a small tour group across campus during the Honors Day festivities. These tours help acquaint prospective freshmen with the campus at large.

Photo by Kayla Rutledge



Lacey Blankenship pauses to impart a morsel of Southern Miss history during this year's Black and Gold Day. In addition to conducting tours at the Hattiesburg campus, Eagle Connection also visits high schools throughout the South to talk to seniors about the joys of Southern Miss.

Photo by Kiana Patrick



Left: Honors Day provided a forum for more than just tours. Here, Heather Murray talks to a prospective student about the benefits of study abroad.

Photo by Kayla Rutledge

Right: Black and Gold Day is a chance for high school students and parents to get a first look at the campus with help and advice from the dedicated students of Eagle Connection.

Photo by Kiana Patrick

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

LAMBDA SIGMA

PHI ETA SIGMA

honors society celebration

Alpha Lambda Delta, Lambda Sigma, Phi Eta Sigma, known on campus as various sophomore societies, joined together to host an informational pizza party for students interested in each organization. The event was geared toward freshmen students who were recognized for not only academic standing, but also for their ability to become a member of two honor societies known for academic excellence and dedication to bettering the university. During our long event, current members of each organization along with the interested freshmen mingled around the new Student Activities Hub and asked questions about each honor society. Potential members who were invited to participate in membership should receive an invitation during the spring semester. Stephanie Gwin, a native of Bucksburg, explains that these honor societies "help join together students who have similar goals and motivations and allow them to work together towards their goals." Stephanie, a member of both Lambda Sigma and Phi Eta Sigma is an earth science major, and confesses that the business is common during a selection process. "I remember hoping after each round that I had said the right thing." Although each organization selects members by different

standards, a common underlying goal of academic excellence and leadership is present.

Becoming a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies includes earning and maintaining a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, as well as participating in the induction ceremony. As a member of Lambda Sigma, a minimum GPA of 3.0 must be maintained, and attendance at bi-weekly meetings is mandatory. This honor society, according to Molly Egloff, a sophomore History major from Diamondhead, strives for "leadership, scholarship, and community service. It has strengthened my leadership abilities and deepened my philanthropic dedication."

Stephanie Smith, a sophomore psychology major from Mobile, is a member of Lambda Sigma and helped organize the event. "I think the event was a success for each organization. We had many freshmen stop by and we informed them of the benefits of membership and what we have to offer." Although each organization brings something different to the table, combined, they foster growth, leadership, and academic excellence for students here at Southern Miss.

Story by Alexandria Achison

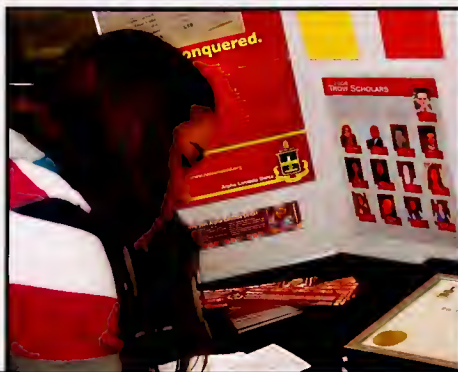
All Photos by Freddie Lance Newman



Members of Lambda Sigma pass out drinks during the party. The pizza party is an annual event for these organizations.



Ryan Meyers, president of Phi Eta Sigma, tries to recruit Amy Kern. Recruiting is a major part of all three of these honor societies.



Interested freshmen Kirsten Lapuyade visited the tables of each organization in hopes of finding one that fit their personal lives.

An Evening of Austen:

Pride & Prejudice



Senior David Smith as Mr. Darcy glares imperiously as the Bennet sisters look on, discussing his haughty manner.



Callie Stephens, a graduate student, smiles softly; a rarity for her character, the dour and somewhat judgemental Elizabeth Bennet.



Mr. Darcy and Miss Bingley, portrayed by Annie Cleveland, observe Elizabeth during a visit.

In the English countryside, a slightly
row of tall windows encloses the
ance of the Martha R. Tatum Theater.
In a few minutes, the simple but
ing set of USM Theater's *Pride and*
vice pulses with activity. From
ully choreographed Regency dances to
banter and long pastoral rambles, the
r feels as though he or she can partake
e action. Collectively, they express
disdain for Mr. Collins, and swoon
Mr. Darcy. According to director Lou
ff, this is exactly what it was supposed
," "It felt personal for the audience,"
ys. Although adapted from the well-
Jane Austen novel, Rackoff directed
ue telling of the well loved story.
e adaptation] was very theatrical,"
ff says, "[You] try to disturb audience
ations."

inventing the often stereotyped
ters of *Pride and Prejudice* presented
enge for many of the cast members.
Cleveland, a junior theater major
ackson, describes her departure from a
trayal of Miss Caroline Bingley: "As
als progressed I found that judging
character so harshly was making her
dimensional. I discovered that Caroline
an evil character, she's just a product
society and time period that she lives

ative exploration defines Southern
Theater. "The rehearsal process was
of discoveries," says Lou Rackoff.
very is what Southern Miss Theater

does best. When asked about the success
of the production, Rackoff hardly mentions
attendance or financial gain, but rather
that, "The level of discovery is the level of
success."

Just as the set of *Pride and Prejudice*
facilitates an intimate environment between
the actors and the audience, the theater
department strives to create an environment
of cohesion and creativity. "We have a
talented, diverse, and enthusiastic student
body," Lou Rackoff says, "Each student
brings a unique artistic voice." Utilizing the
immense amount of talent in the Southern
Miss theater program proves a challenge and
strongly influences the department's choice
of plays. "We go through a pretty intensive
selection process," Rackoff adds. "There
were a lot of women's roles [in *Pride and*
Prejudice]."

The artistic talents of all the theater
students combine to create an entertaining
and meaningful performance. Annie
Cleveland describes the warm-ups before
a performance as "a huge energy booster
[that] really encourages us to think like
a collaborative ensemble." The spirit of
professionalism and collaboration infuses all
of the activities of the Southern Miss Theater
and is the reason productions like *Pride and*
Prejudice are an artistic success. "The play is
really lovely and I feel it's something we can
all be proud of," Cleveland says.

Story by Hannah Ryan
All Photos by Erin Wojtala



Twoey Truong as Jane Bennet dances
in her sister Elizabeth during one of the
play's happier moments.

SOUTHERN MISS REPERTORY DANCE COMPANY ANNUAL

Fall Dance Concert

The Southern Miss Repertory Dance Company is proud to present its annual Fall Dance Concert. This year's theme is "The Dance of the Ages." The concert will feature a variety of dances from different cultures and time periods. The program will include a mix of traditional and contemporary pieces. The company is excited to share these beautiful dances with the community.

The concert will be held on Friday, October 15th, at 7:00 PM. The location is the University Center. Tickets are available for purchase at the door and in advance. The advance price is \$10.00. The door price is \$15.00. There is a \$5.00 donation for students. The concert is free for children under 12. The company is grateful for the support of the community.

The Southern Miss Repertory Dance Company is a non-profit organization. All proceeds from the concert will be used to support the company's activities. The company is committed to providing a high-quality dance education to its students. The company is also committed to promoting the arts in the community.

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Set by Dick Wicks
A Photo by Christopher B. Smith



(Top) Shelley Manry Bourgeois dances
in "Starbirthing," a piece about emotion
and (Right) character transformation.



Amber Trbuza, Molly Peresich, Courtney
Simon, and Sarah Patch dance around
Lauri Moorhouse in a modern dance
called "Spirits of Catharsis."



WARRIOR

USM ARMY ROTC VISTS CAMP SHELBY

From pencils to push-ups, the men and women who've decided to enter the Army ROTC program chose a life-altering course for a collegiate career as a Golden Eagle. The Army ROTC, an acronym for Reserve Officers' Training Corp, is a network of students who go to school and train to become leaders in the military. It is a program created to instill the core values and lessons for the future ladies and gentlemen serving our country.

Every fall the Army ROTC program holds an event known as "Field Training" which essentially is a flight simulator, to better prepare members for their future in the military. Held each year at Camp Shelby, a near-campus wooded area and home to a training station for current active military members, the program is a great way to get into the wilderness and away from the rat race of the everyday college life.

The Army ROTC Field Training Exercises, also known as Army FTX was held starting on a chilly Friday morning in November and throughout the weekend. Cody Stuart, a junior history major from Bassfield commented, "Yeah it was very cold, but it was good to get away for a weekend and focus on our future. It is just a practice run for some of us who plan

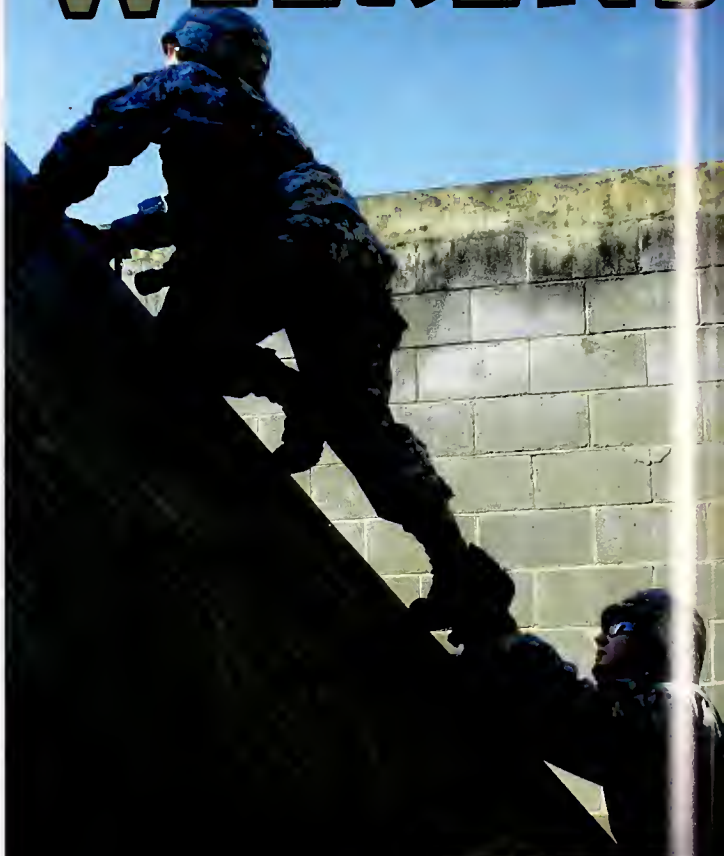
to live like this one day." The weekend training included an M-16 rifle range, day and night land navigation courses, a road march, and squad sized situational training variables where cadets learn to make decisions using the Military Decision Making Process and lead a squad on a combat mission.

A variety of other tasks, Lt. Col. Charles Mitchell, professor of military science and head instructor, said his "field training exercise is an opportunity for cadets to put into practice the tactics and leadership skills they have learned in the classroom by actually leading other cadets on a simulated combat mission.

By making training exercises mirror the operational environment, cadets learn to assess a situation, make a decision and execute it." Talking to a cadet whom had just returned from FTX: 2009 edition, Thomas Gara, a sophomore from Ocean Springs, noted that "It was a great, but tiring experience and I am extremely looking forward to all the training for next time. I hope to compare my experiences and chart all the progress I made, all the progress we have all made."

Story by Jack Spitz

WEEKEND



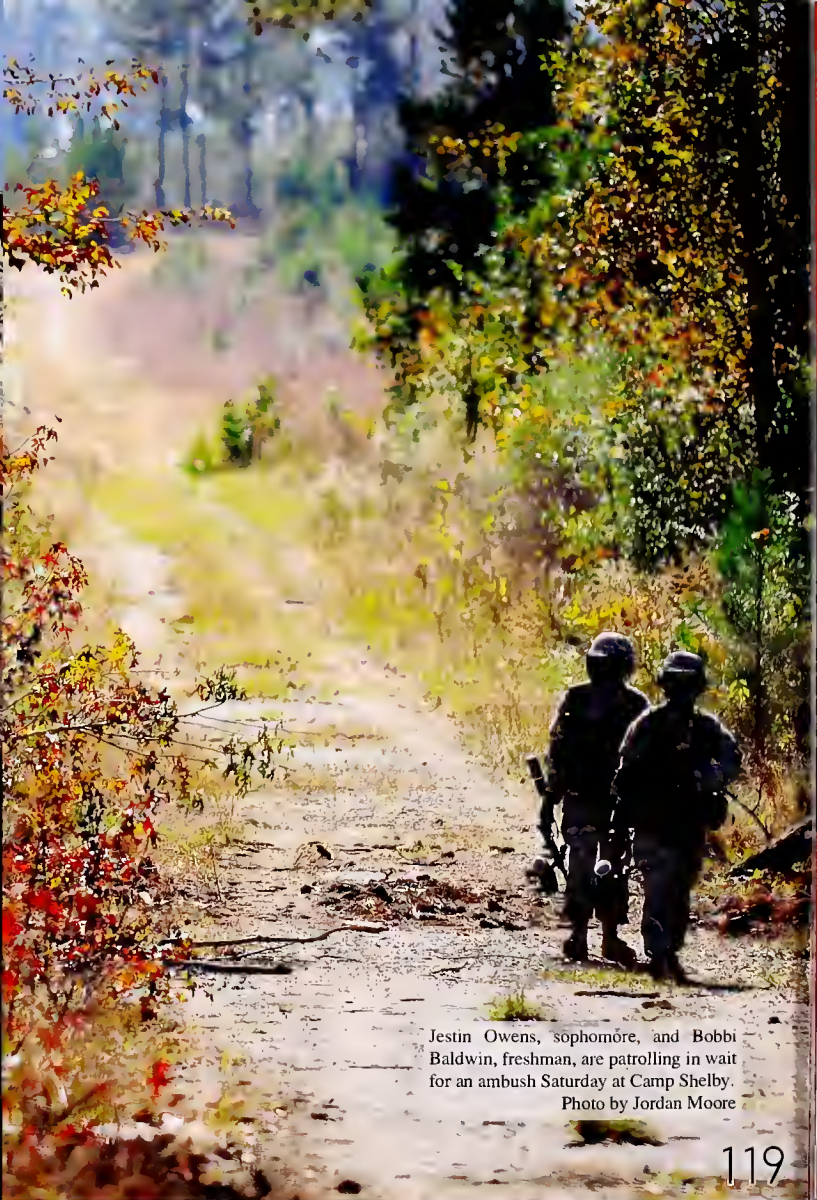
Junior Joesph Butler gives Freshman, Lucas O'Quin a boost in the leadership reaction course on Sunday November 15th.

Photo by Samantha Stanford



Junior Peter Rodgers (left) and sophomore MJ Sly (right) work together during the leadership reaction course Sunday November 15th.

Photo by Samantha Stanford



Jestin Owens, sophomore, and Bobbi Baldwin, freshman, are patrolling in wait for an ambush Saturday at Camp Shelby.

Photo by Jordan Moore

SIGMA NU

FLAG FOOTBALL, BROTHERS BONDING



Despite the rainy afternoon, sororities and fraternities eagerly participated in Sigma Nu's annual flag football tournament. The competition was fierce, but Sigma Phi Epsilon came out on top for the fraternity division. Here, Chase Osmond takes the ball in for a touchdown.

Every year, two things characterize Sigma Nu's philanthropy: dedication and rain. This year proved no different to men of the Theta Gamma chapter of Sigma Nu on Southern Miss's campus. The rain may have made their annual flag football tournament more slippery than usual, but their philanthropic dedication to the DuBard School—a school designed to serve children with severe lan-

guage-speech disorders—was shown is great amounts to help raise money and awareness of the on campus institution.

The tournament, held on the intramural fields, boasted a fraternity and sorority division, with the championship awarding Phi Mu overall winner for sororities, and Sigma Phi Epsilon winner for the fraternities.

Mike Moulder, a senior history major from Flowood, served as this year's Philanthropy Chairman. "I was really proud of this year's

turnout. We raised nearly \$1,000 dollars and got to see the children's faces when we showed up at the DuBard School."

Sigma Nu president Robby Norton, a junior psychology major from Mobile, helped organize the event and served as a referee during the tournaments. "It was a really good day, all the Greeks got together to help out our cause and I am really thankful that our Greek Life system can work together and be supportive of one another."

Sigma Nu has been on Southern Miss's campus since 1969, and has been raising money for the DuBard School since spring 2008. Ryan Mottley, a junior Sigma Nu member from Biloxi, has enjoyed volunteering at the institution since his freshman year. "Getting the chance to go and interact with the children I am helping just makes me want to work harder each year." The political science major puts in over twenty-five hours per semester with the DuBard School. "Whenever I have



Sororities and fraternities take Sigma Nu's flag football tournament very seriously: this fraternity strategizes in a huddle before the next play starts. Meanwhile, Drew McElveen, a member of Sigma Nu, referees from the sideline.

free time I try to stop by and help out any way I can."

Sigma Nu currently boasts seventeen members, each with a constant dedication to helping their two philanthropic events, each benefiting the DuBard School and St. Jude's Research Hospital, respectively. Throughout their time helping the school, the fraternity has raised over three thousand dollars, and President Robby Norton hopes that that amount will "double or triple over the next few years."

Story by Marie John
All Photos by Roy Green

NOVEMBER RECAP



Above: Men march around Shoemaker Square in high heels to raise money and awareness for domestic abuse. Volunteers came from several fraternities, athletics teams, and beyond.

Photo by J. Casey Clingan

Right: Honors society Gamma Beta Phi initiated a wide class of new members this November. Initiates received a certificate and a round of applause from gathered friends, loved ones, and peers.

Photo by Samantha Stanford

C-Span arrived on campus in their forty-five foot touring bus. The channel promoted media literacy and helped to make students aware of internship opportunities with the channel.

Photo by Jay Van Orman





IRON POUR

Chris Lee taps Southern Miss' iron-melting furnace at this year's Iron Pour. The event, held at the 3-D Arts Building, marries industrial sensibilities with artistic aesthetics. The forge is one of the largest in use by a university. Once heated, iron is then poured (carefully!) into preprepared molds provided by the art department.

Photos by J. Eric Hessleberg



Photo by Fred the Lance Newman



Photo by Christopher Bostick

winter

LIGHTING THE WAY

SOUTHERN MISS SHINES

126




Lisa Parker gazes intently at one of the university's largest Christmas trees. Lighting the Way for the Holidays transforms the front of campus into a wonderland of light.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Santa Claus made an early stop at Southern Miss, taking a moment to sit and listen to the wishes of local children.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Kimberly Gaddis smiles broadly as she surveys one of the trees. Each tree was decorated to raise money for the Oseola McCarty Youth Development Center.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

As finals near at the end of the fall semester, the front of campus becomes the ultimate symbol of Christmas spirit, with numerous trees and candy canes filling the lawns of Southern Miss. This signifies the Lighting the Way for the Holidays event, which was hosted this year as the third annual celebration.

This event is the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit, and yet also provides an opportunity to help a worthy cause. "The event is hosted by the Student Government Association, and this year it benefitted the Oseola McCarty Youth Development Center, which provides afterschool and summer care for the youth downtown," explained the event director Andrew Brown, a junior biology major from Madison, Mississippi. "Different organizations around campus donated to OMYDC and were able to decorate holiday trees or get decorative candy canes at the front of campus. Overall, the event was a great success, and we were able to donate \$4,200 to the OMYDC."

While at the event, people are able to participate in numerous activities. "Activities for the attendees were also set up," said Brown. "These included a hot chocolate station, an ornament decorating station, and both a Santa and Seymour Santa picture taking stations. The big part of the event is when we light all of the decorated trees for the first time at the event."

To Kasey Mitchell, the SGA Director of Programming and a junior from Picayune,

Mississippi double majoring in management and political science, the celebration holds a special significance. "The event is important to me because it is the one event that is done completely to help out a worthy cause. None of the money raised goes to SGA and I think it is a great event to bring the entire campus together for an important cause during the holiday season. It is also a great event for students to come to and take a break from studying for finals.

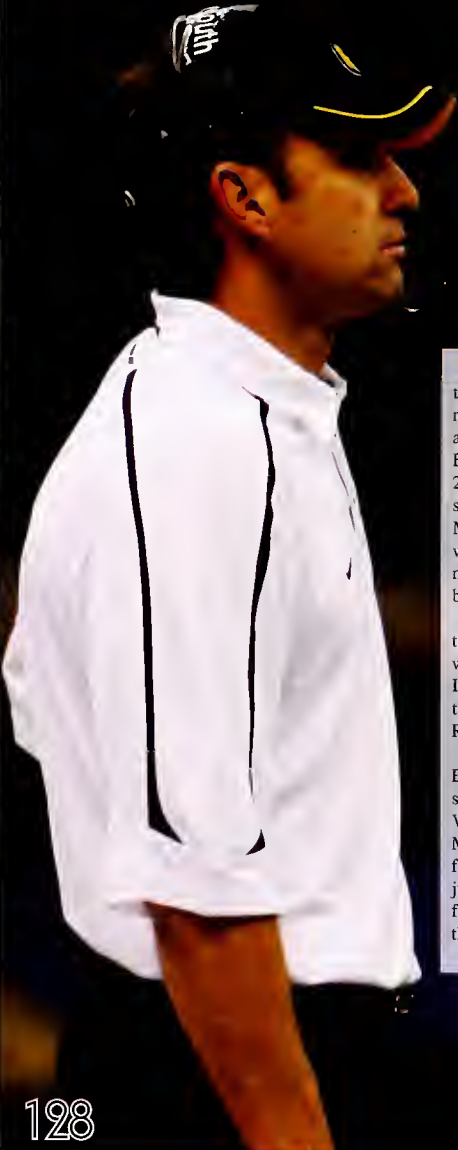
"What makes the event even more special is that we actually get to see what our hard work and preparation is going to, since a representative from the organization the money is going to always comes and speaks. This year the money went to the OMYDC, and it made it even more special because the center brought a van full of the children from the center to the event so we were able to see and interact with the very children that would be benefiting from all the money raised."

Having such a noble and worthy event on campus shows how willing the Southern Miss campus is to helping others especially during the holiday season. With simply a display of trees and lights, Lighting the Way for the Holidays is able to embody the true Southern Miss spirit, making participants excited for this newly created event for years to come.

Story by John Barr

Golden Eagles

Ending the Season in the Big Easy



Southern Miss rebounded off of their loss to conference rival Houston with two much needed wins against conference foes Marshall and Tulsa. The Marshall game featured the Eagles' first road win of the season in the 27-20 win over the Thundering Herd. This set the stage for a memorable, rainy night at M.M. Roberts Stadium against Tulsa. Why was it memorable? Because it was the last night this class of seniors would ever don the black and gold in the Rock.

"It's going to affect our whole football team," said head coach Larry Fedora. "They want to send these seniors out the right way. It's the last time those guys are going to put the black and gold on and walk out into the Rock."

Mission accomplished, as the Golden Eagles downed Tulsa 44-34. "It was crazy," said senior Information Technology major Will Turnage, a native of New Hebron, Mississippi. "There were sheets of rain falling, it was cold, and the conditions were just miserable; but the student section was full. The fans were there to cheer on some of their favorite players and it was a great sight."

"Greatest fans in the world," running back

Damion Fletcher said. "They've shown lots of support for me through my ups and downs. I'm trying to go out with a bang, playing as hard as I can. It's tough going out there for the last time. It's special for me."

This also saw the last night in the Rock for seniors Ryan Hebert, Tory Harrison, Gerald Baptiste, Terrence Conner, and more. "It was sad to see the guys out there for the last time," said Turnage. "They will be missed next season for sure."

As if all of that didn't make the night special enough, it put the Golden Eagles into a great position: a "do or die" game for a spot in the Conference championship game against division rival and the defending CUSA Champion East Carolina Pirates.

The game was a struggle, with the Eagles finally tying the game in the fourth quarter at 20-20, albeit briefly, as the Pirates blocked the extra point and ran it back to their own end zone for two points. An East Carolina field goal later, and the Eagles' conference championship hopes were dashed.

It wasn't all a negative note as the winning steak extended to an incredible 16 seasons after finishing 7-5, a game better than

last season. It also set them up for their 18th consecutive bowl game and their 14th straight berth in the New Orleans Bowl for the second straight year.

The Golden Eagles can't always be disappointed, however, as their inability to slow down running quarterbacks became a trend again against the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders. "It was heart breaking," said Stephanie Wu, a freshman nursing major from Ridgeland, MS. "The guys put their hearts into this game and it was sad to see the seniors leave on such a downer."

The season wasn't a total wash, however, as Damion Fletcher entered NCN record books as he finished the season 8th in rushing yards and became only the fourth player to have four consecutive 1,000 rushing yard seasons.

While the season may have ended on two disappointing losses, it's hard to complain about a one game regular season improvement and having one of your school's all-time greats and future legends end up in the NCAA record books.

Story by Alan Wheeler

Photo by Sebe Hale IV



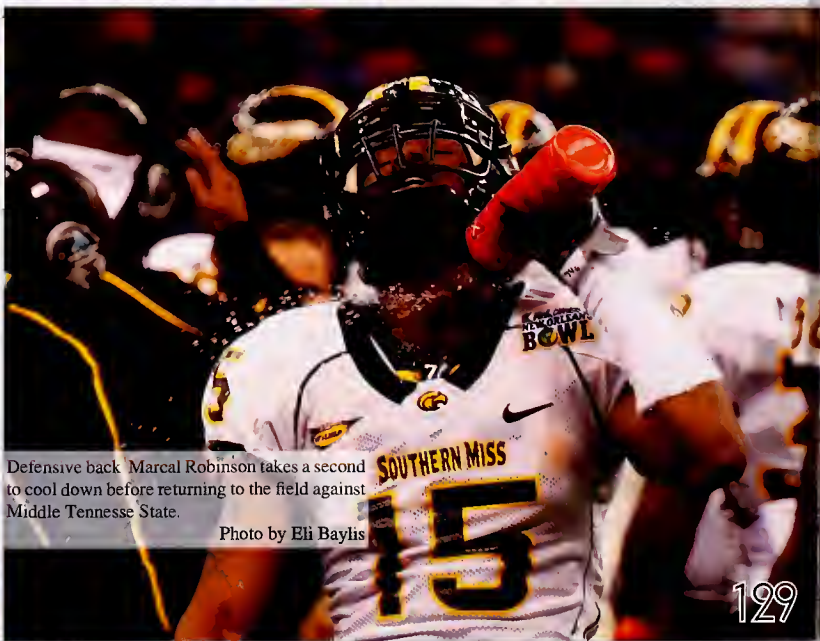
Running back Tory Harrison pushes in for a touchdown helping the Eagles win 44-34 in the last home game against Tulsa.

Photo by Eli Baylis



Southern Miss tight end Leroy Banks and Middle Tennessee State safety Kevin Brown chase after a loose football during the 2009 New Orleans Bowl.

Photo by Eli Baylis



Defensive back Marcal Robinson takes a second to cool down before returning to the field against Middle Tennessee State.

Photo by Eli Baylis

Sherman and Gina Heathcock have been residents of Hattiesburg for over a decade, and in just seven days, their lives were changed forever thanks to the support of a national television show and hundreds of Southern Miss students. Extreme Makeover: Home Edition traveled to the Hub City during a chilly week in December to provide the Heathcock's and their three children with a brand new home. Sherman and Gina were selected from a pool of candidates to receive Hattiesburg's first National Association of Home Builders Green Home. The family's home, which received a significant amount of damage from Hurricane Katrina in 2005, had not been fully repaired prior to the start of construction.

"Southern Miss students made up a large percentage of those who volunteered to help," said Hattiesburg Policeman D.J. Jackson, who served as traffic control during the week. "Volunteers registered for six hour shifts during the seven day period, where work continued twenty four hours a day. Courtney Frye, a resident of Hattiesburg, volunteered on Day 3, also known as Build Day. "I got to help remove the last bit of the old house, and watch the walls go up on the new home." The junior forensic science major, who worked from 12 PM to 6 PM, was comedic in reference to the erratic weather patterns that occurred during the week: "It started to rain when I first showed up to the build site, and by the time I left, snow flurries were beginning to fall." The unpredictable weather did cause a few setbacks for the crew, but Ty Pennington has promised to give the Heathcock's a new home in just seven days, and he delivered.

Senior mass communications major Jason Lang, who helped with news coverage, was a regular in the Media Tent, an area set aside for Southern Miss students who wanted to gain practical experience in their studied field. "It was a great experience," said Jason, "I got to film a lot of the construction, and even meet Paige Hemmis." Local businesses were asked to pitch in as subcontractors to help with the build, and Hattiesburg rose to the occasion—over 48 businesses helped with cabinetry, plumbing, electrical, cementing, and catering. Extreme Makeover: Home Edition provided three meals a day for any worker or volunteer registered for the event, as well as snacks, energy drinks, and even a ten minute massage.

Brittany Keely, a sophomore nutrition major from Bay St. Louis, also volunteered for the event. "I was so excited when they handed me a power saw and told me to 'get to work'—I had a blast sawing through the chain link fence!"

After a weeklong vacation at the Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, the Heathcock's were welcomed into their new home by the entire cast and crew from the popular television show. The episode, set to premiere at the end of February on ABC, will feature footage filmed by Southern Miss students, editorials composed in time with live events throughout the build week, and will serve as a reminder of the philanthropic passion Southern Miss students have for helping others.

Story by Marie John
All photos by Jay Van Orsdol





Volunteers and Extreme Makeover crew members are working on the Heathcock's new home. The crew worked non-stop for seven days to complete the overhaul.



Extreme Makeover host Ty Pennington greets special guest star Christian Slater as he arrives to surprise the Heathcock family.

“This family needs a new chapter in their life. I think we can give them that.”

-Ty Pennington



Students Alison Coon and Hayley Hodges, who while volunteers work on the Heathcock family's new home in early December.



School of Music

Christmas Concert

The School of Music's Holiday Spectacular helped ring in the holiday season with the gift of song. The event, held on December 1st at Main Street Baptist Church, was an evening for members of the Hattiesburg and surrounding communities to enjoy the vocal talent of both the Hattiesburg Choral Union and Meistersingers of Hattiesburg. The two choirs joined forces for the Christmas season to prepare a uniquely festive concert. The mass choir was accompanied by the Southern Miss Symphony Orchestra.

The choir began with "Hyfrydol," which was conducted by John Flannery, Assistant Director of Choral Activities. "From the opening choral fanfare, to the lush and thick textured orchestra, to the congregational singing," said Flannery, "the piece has everything to convey the spirit of the season. The choir and orchestra performed them brilliantly, and as the conductor, the music left me engulfed in the beauty of the sound."

The Southern Chorale, Concert Choir, and University Singers also sang more familiar holiday carols such as "Sleigh Ride" and some classic pieces like "Poverty Carol" and "There Shall Come Forth a Shoot." The Carillon, a bell ensemble, also performed "Sing We Now of Christmas." A new all-male ensemble joined in the holiday cheer this year as well: The Spirit of Southern wowed the crowd with their acapella version of "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch," which is from the popular movie, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

The Mass Choir sang movements six, thirteen, and fourteen from An American Requiem Mass by Edward Penhorwood. The choral department gave a preview of this mass, but debuted more of it during a concert in the spring. These movements had many solo parts, including soloist Nikisha Williams. This senior vocal performance major from Mobile commented on her involvement with the Holiday Concert,

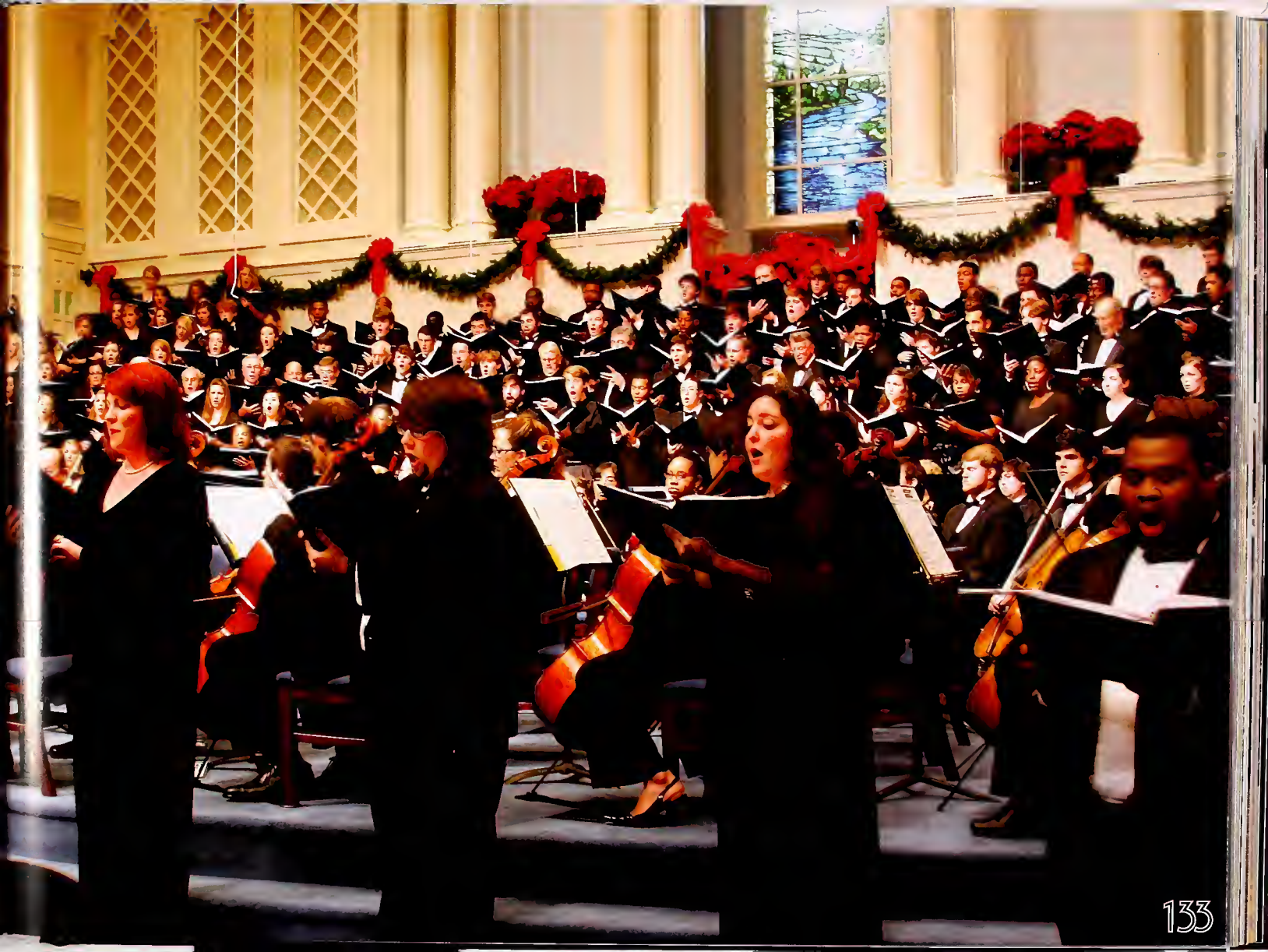
saying:

"I was very thankful for the opportunity to sing the piece because of the beautiful music and message in the song. This motivated me to really connect with the words that I was singing and attempt to portray the music in the way the composer would have wanted."

The Choral Union and Symphony encouraged the audience to join in on the ending song, a particular favorite named "Joyful and Triumphant." The audience's involvement created a sense of unity between music scholars and the crowd.

The School of Music gave the audience a warming sensation of holiday cheer through instruments and voice. The collaboration of these large musical groups not only showed the bond between the various musicians showed the true diversity of the Southern Miss music department.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman
Story by Eryka Wallace



Winter Commencement

A DEGREE OF SEPARATION

Gowns, caps, diplomas, and an overall sense of success—these are the trappings of graduation. Graduation threatens to strip students of the safety provided by the education system while simultaneously blessing these individuals with the gift of a completed education, ready for application in the “real world.”

For Rebecca Wilks, a senior marketing major from Byram, Mississippi, she looks at graduation as a time for change “It’s so weird how everything is coming to an end, especially the time invested in friendships. Knowing that I will not see the same faces everyday makes me sad, but I will always hold fond memories of my Southern Miss

family. I don’t think there is any other school that is comparable to how dedicated the faculty and staff are to helping each of us to succeed.”

On the cusp of the university’s Centennial Celebration, seniors are feeling more and more part of the history and legacy of Southern Miss. “When I look back, I will always be able to remember graduation as a momentous experience for both myself and Southern Miss,” said senior Chris Arguedas, a speech communications major from Madison. “I know that Southern Miss has prepared me for whatever the next chapter of my life is, and it’s time to move on to that next stage.”

During the surreal graduation ceremony, Lizz McKean, a senior mass communication and journalism major from Mobile, grasped the idea of change at hand during this stage in her life. “My professor told us on the last week of class that there is no change in each of us from the last class and after the graduation ceremony. That system may be true, but walking across the stage with everyone watching and shaking the hand of President Saunders was definitely a liberating moment for myself. The ceremony itself was fun because it was the completion of another chapter in my life. I’ll miss the many events and memories shared with friends, along with the community we

have had as college students.”

Graduation is a definitive accomplishment in a person’s life, a moment that should be held dear and can never be stripped away. As graduation comes and goes for each student at Southern Miss, this campus proves as an excellent location to breed relationships along with a fine education, expresses McKean. “Southern Miss is small enough to recognize familiar faces and make lifelong friends, yet big enough to empower each of us to stand independently so we are confident to start our own life, awaiting the chance to cheer as alumni.”

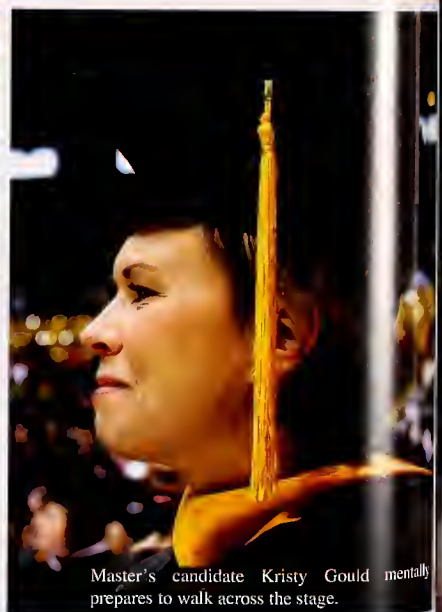
All Photos by Freddie Lance Newman
Story by John Barr



Former SGA president Melissa Cirino being honored by Dr. Saunders during commencement after receiving an award for her service to the university.



Some graduates can't help their enthusiasm. One, pictured below, decorated her cap to help her family better recognize her among the crowd.



Master's candidate Kristy Gould mentally prepares to walk across the stage.



*"Do not go where the path may lead" go instead
where there is no path and leave a trail "*

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

POWER
HOUSE



Photo by Kristi Bruister

spring

THE MATH ZONE



Darryl Dade and Darius Hearn exit the newly opened Math Zone. Established as a resource for students struggling with math requirements, the Math Zone moved into the old bookstore across from Cook Library after considerable renovations.

Photo by Gilman Borda

*January:
back to the grind*

the senior condition:

January brings new hopes and insight. Countless projects and renovations took place across campus in the quiet emptiness of the Winter Break. Students returning for a new (and sometimes final semester) were greeted by things both new and familiar. The Southerner caught up with four students in the first days of the new semester. Our two seniors were asked about the feelings, anxiety, and excitement they felt as they approached their last days here at Southern Miss.



Left: Senior Grayson Byrd says, "It's draining close to the end, but there's still so much to look forward to. You think four years is such a long time, but the time disappears so quickly. Enjoy your time in college; don't take it for granted. I loved Southern Miss."

Photo by Samantha Stanford



Above: Senior Casey Taggart says, "It's been a great season!" I'm going to miss my friends and hanging out, but I'm just ready to start the next season of my life, to just start a new chapter."

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Above: Junior Sarah Wheeler says, "I'm excited that I'm this much closer to graduating and pursuing a career in broadcast journalism."

Photo by Samantha Stanford

Right: Freshman Tyler Stibling says, "It felt like coming home. I've only been here for a semester, but I don't know, I just missed this place. I missed my crazy hall mates."

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

with further still to go:

While the seniors look forward to their day of graduation, other students are returning to the Southern Miss campus with a slightly more protracted stay in mind. Two underclassmen were asked about their feelings returning to the university and their hopes for the semester and beyond.





At the beginning of the spring semester, the Office of Sustainability got a new permanent home below the Student Activities Hub. The EcoEagle Bike Program and Southern Miss Recycling, founded as part of Southern Miss' general trend towards "going green," have found success in educating the student body and raising awareness about eco-friendly living.

Photo by Gillian Bordan

SOUTHERN MISSES

Courtside Spirit

Southern Miss Basketball fans are not the only ones familiar with this group from the university community. Their sassy moves and smiling faces on game day are a common sight to see.

The Southern Misses, a dance team that is most known for dancing at basketball games, is also active during football season helping everyone get into the spirit during pep rallies.

The Southern Misses is an auditioned dance team who primarily dance jazz, hip hop, and pom styles. The team dances and cheers at Friday Night at the Fountain and participates in bringing the football team out for the Eagle Walk.

"We have a very talented and diverse group of girls who have a common interest in dancing and enjoy being a part of a team," said Kellie Oberkirch, a senior from Mobile. "It's almost a year round commitment, but we enjoy being together and finding fun things to do outside of practice and games."

To be a member of the team, one must be incredibly dedicated to the group in that they must commit to attending practices and performances, a schedule which can be quite rigorous at times.

Elizabeth Kiehn, a freshman from Meridian, said she decided to try out for the Southern Misses because she did not have the opportunity to be on a dance team in high school.

"I've been dancing since I was 5 years old, but at my high school we never had a dance team, so I always cheered," Kiehn said. "I knew I wanted to dance in college, but I had to make a decision about which dance team I wanted at Southern Miss, and I found what I wanted with the Southern Misses."

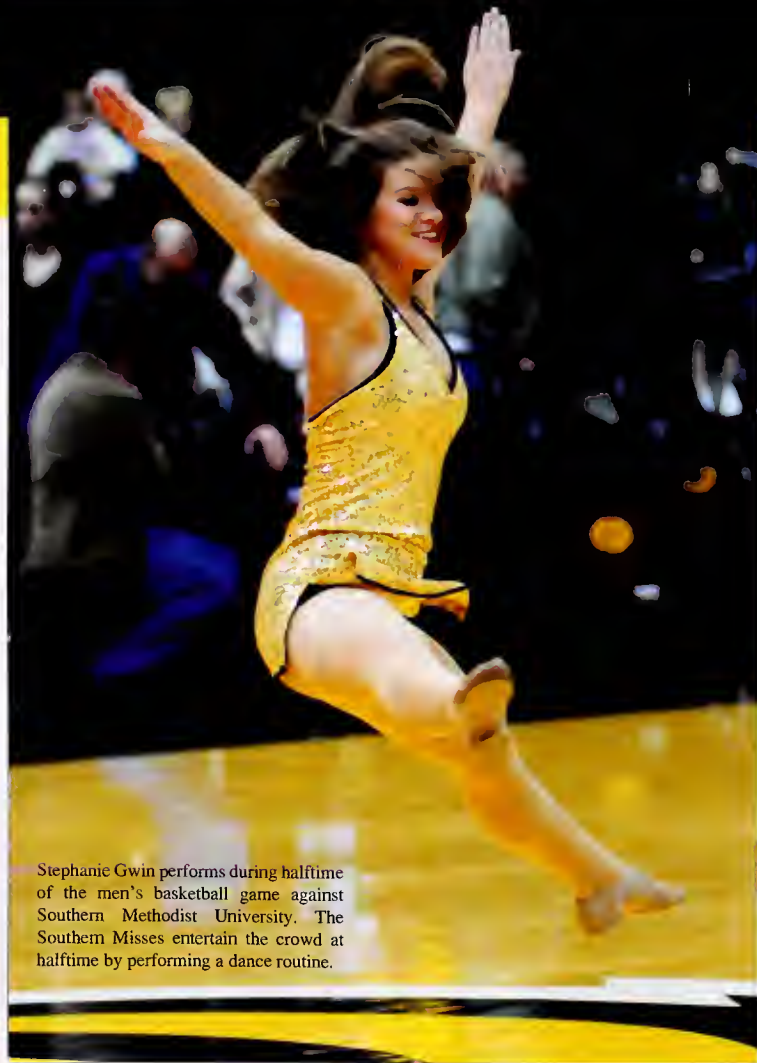
Members of the Southern Misses must try out every year to secure a spot on the team.

"This is my second year on the team, and we have to try out every year," said Stephanie Gwin, a sophomore from Vicksburg. "I decided to try out for the second year not only because I love to dance but also because I have such a love for Southern Miss, and being a member of the Southern Misses allows me to show support for my school while doing something that I love."

"My dance experience this year has been a bit of a whirlwind," Kiehn said. "In a good way though. It's a bit overwhelming being a freshman and performing in front of your university, but I loved every minute of it."

The Southern Miss dance team is currently comprised of sixteen members, and Head Coach Jennifer Centola hopes that the team "brings about a fun and upbeat spirit for the audience."

Story by Marika Smith
All Photos by Casey Clingan

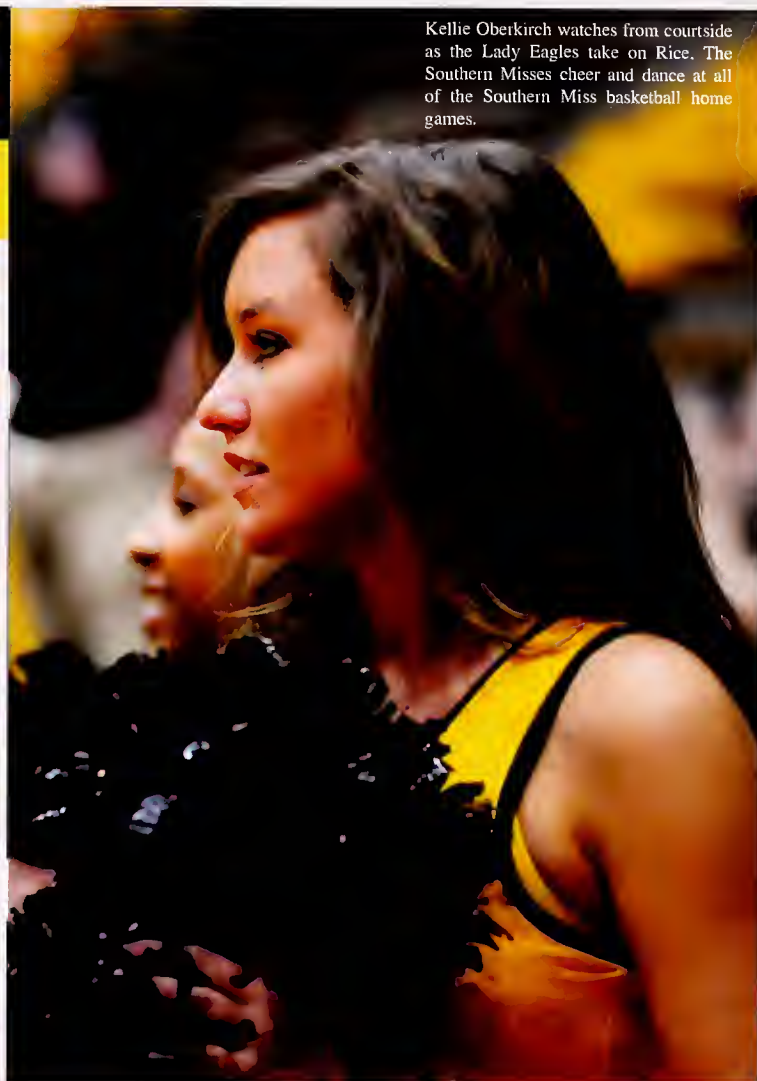


Stephanie Gwin performs during halftime of the men's basketball game against Southern Methodist University. The Southern Misses entertain the crowd at halftime by performing a dance routine.

Amanda Hodges dances with girls scouts at halftime during the Lady Eagle's game against Rice.



Kellie Oberkirch watches from courtside as the Lady Eagles take on Rice. The Southern Misses cheer and dance at all of the Southern Miss basketball home games.





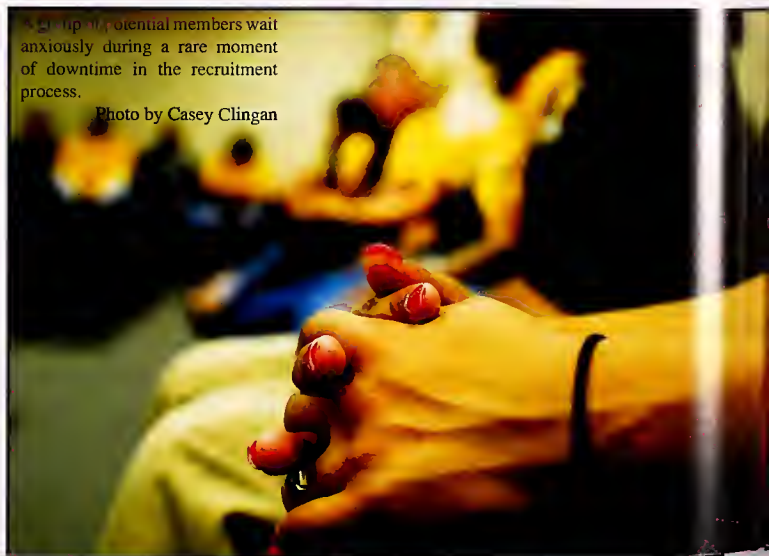
Southern Style hopefuls play an ice breaker during the first day of interviews.

Photo by Casey Clingan



Junior broadcast journalism major Tierra Clemmons smiles during the second day of interviews. Candidates met en masse in R.C.'s Lounge for interviews.

Photo by Casey Clingan



Potential members wait anxiously during a rare moment of downtime in the recruitment process.

Photo by Casey Clingan

SOUTHERN STYLE

JOURNEY TO THE GOLDEN JACKET

When Rachel Nicholson first stepped onto the campus of the University of Mississippi, she was struck by the beauty of the old brick buildings and the white columns of the porticoes. She was also struck by the warmth of the people who greeted her. "I was a little nervous at first, but everyone was so friendly and helpful," she says. "I felt like I had found a new home."

During her first year, Rachel learned a lot about the South and its people. She was introduced to the rich history and culture of the region, and she was inspired by the passion and pride of the people who lived there. "I was so lucky to be here," she says. "I learned so much about myself and the world around me."

By the end of her first year, Rachel was a true Southerner. She had found her place in the world, and she was ready to take on whatever challenges came her way.

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Story by Sylvia W. White

During her first day in her golden jacket Rachel Nicholson practices tour etiquette.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Renée Fleming:



voice of the century



As the premiere event of the Southern Miss 2010 Centennial Celebration, the centennial committee brought world renowned opera star Renee Fleming to Jackson to perform with the Southern Miss Symphony Orchestra and some select Southern Miss students.

According to Jennifer Hart, the Southern Miss Symphony Orchestra's marketing director, Fleming invited students to sing with her and play in the orchestra, thus opening the door for the program's success.

Twelve students and twelve members of the Mississippi Opera Association had the opportunity to sing with Fleming in the concert, January 29th.

Lori Birrer, a graduate student in vocal performance from Indianapolis said her experience singing with the opera star was unmeasurable.

"It was such an incredible learning experience for me," Birrer said. "Ms. Fleming not only has a superb voice, but she is a true artist. We were able to not only sing with her, but also watch her rehearse and see how she prepares behind the scenes."

Birrer also said, "Her artistry and commitment to the text was both awe inspiring and challenging to me. She has been gifted with a beautiful instrument, but she didn't just leave it- she took it and has made the most of it. It is truly an experience I will not forget."

Jessica West, a first year doctoral student in vocal performance and pedagogy from Madison, said performing with Fleming was

an incredible experience and inspired her deeply.

"It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," West said. "Her musical ability and artistry is beyond any other professional I have ever seen. She was very professional, and working with her brought inspiration to my own singing."

A two time grammy winner, Fleming is known as "the people's diva" and the "voice of the century."

She has performed at a number of prestigious venues across the country. She is working with the Metropolitan Opera during the 2009-2010 operatic season performing pieces including, Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*. In May, Fleming will perform in the MET premiere of *Armida*.

In the past, Fleming has performed for the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony (2006), the 2008 Olympics, and the "We are one: the Obama Inaugural Celebration" at the Lincoln Memorial.

In addition to her singing and performing, Fleming has been the face of Rolex print advertising since 2001 and works to advocate literacy through promotional campaigns with the American Publishers Association and the Magazine Publisher's Campaign for the American Library Association.

Story by Marika Smith

All Photos by Danny Rawls

Top: Fleming was accompanied by several of the finest student-artists at Southern Miss. Twelve students earned the right to perform with Fleming during the event.

Bottom: Fleming sings with the accompaniment of the Mississippi Opera. Known as "the people's diva," Fleming is a soprano of the utmost skill and charm.



Tickled by a fan's gratitude, Lauren Conrad signs her newest book. Lauren came to bring awareness about m.powerment, which is a dating abuse awareness foundation.

Lauren Conrad at southern miss
m. powerment

You may have seen her in a glossy magazine. You may have read her name in a gossip website. Possibly you, some of your friends, your girlfriend and all of your boyfriend's friends might just be an avid fan of the smash hit reality television phenomenon *The Hills*. For some, you may only know her as a guest star on the college demographic blockbuster show *Guy*. However, famous actress Lauren Conrad wants her time spent off camera to shine just as bright the minutes she spends under a rolling camera. In 2009 Mark Cosmetics teamed up to see what they could accomplish.

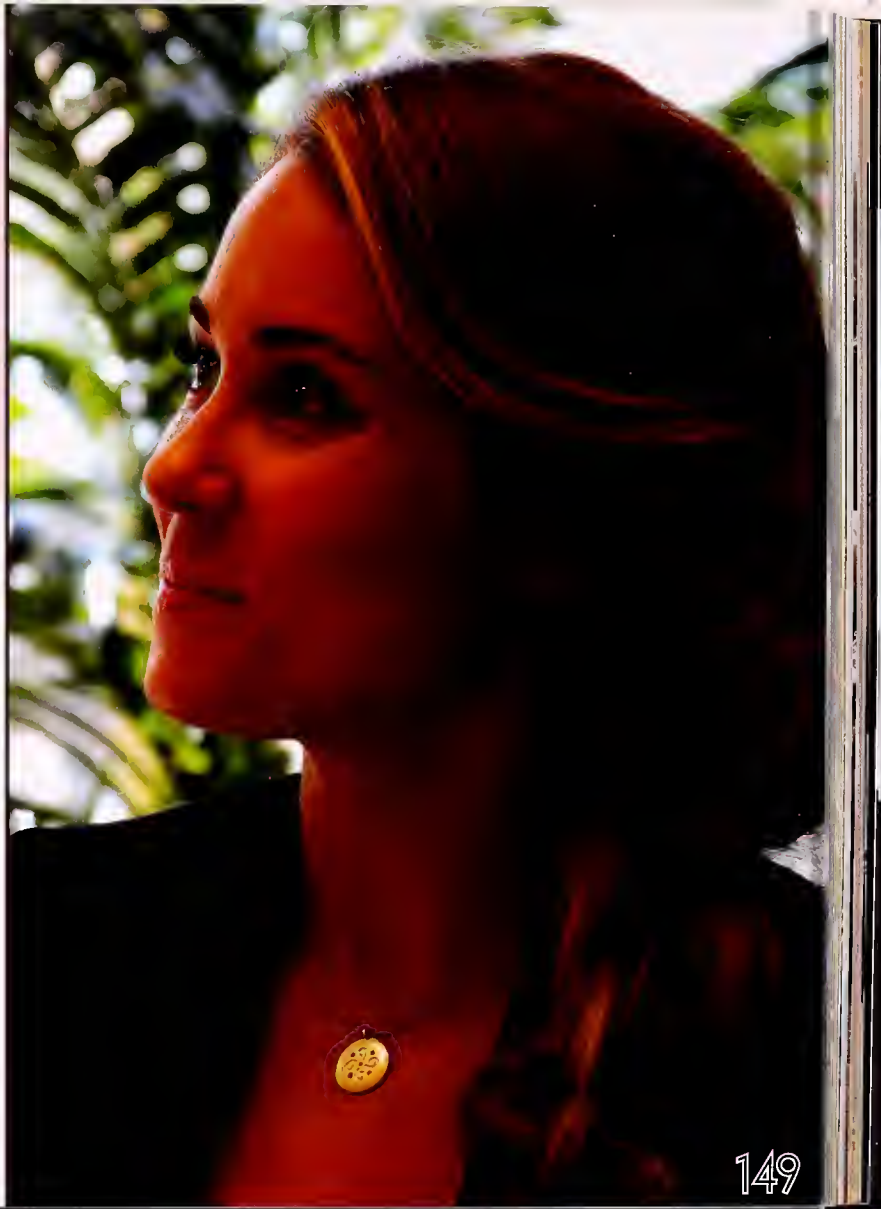
With this collaboration they have teamed up with the "m.powerment" tour. With Conrad having just finished penning her second book, a tour that promotes the cosmetics line, and a fantastic message agenda can do nothing but lead the young woman to great success. The ideal that women should never have to settle for any semblance of abuse or oppression of a feeling that lessens a gender is just what the tour is all about. Empowering. Kristen Smith, a senior interior design major from Crosby, Mississippi understands the true need for an empowering agent: "Lauren Conrad is an accomplished young woman and I

could not think of a better spokesperson for Mark and the m.powerment of Women Tour. As a senior graduating in the middle of a recession, she could not have gotten to our University at any better time. Our young women on this campus need hope and encouragement to work for that next opportunity. It's nice to hear for once, "we can" instead of "but with the economy". We must become the change if we want to see it."

Lauren's book signing event, which takes place inside Southern Miss's Barnes and Noble Bookstore, is a reward earned by the University for purchasing the most jewelry designed by Lauren and Mark Cosmetics, of which the proceeds benefit the m.powerment of Women Tour. "I bought my necklace when I was getting all my textbooks for the semester and I wear it all the time. I'm glad part of my purchase went towards a great cause and Southern Miss is now being rewarded," says junior Amanda Wilson, an art licensure major from Spanish Fort, Alabama. "I've read her first book and plan to get her second one really soon."

Story by Jack Spitz

Photos by Christopher Bostick



SNOW DAZE

at Southern Mississippi



Photo by David Byrd

Southern Miss is similar to all other universities in that, when bad weather strikes, campus shuts down and students get a break. One could argue though, that Southern Miss has seen a trend of school closings thanks to a non-typical winter here in south Mississippi—snow.

The spring semester here in Hattiesburg has seen it's more than fair share of the white, fluffy stuff. With four school cancellations in two months alone, Snow Days at Southern Miss have become more of a reality than a wish upon holiday. Sophomore Mary Hannah, a public relations major and Hattiesburg native, said that "the first time we got out because of the snow... the second and third and forth were less of a novelty and more of a hassle—we're not supposed to be getting this much snow in one school year!"

The biggest snow day seen this year occurred in mid-February, a time when students argue that campus should be warming up and feeling more like

springtime," said junior Jessica Miller, a business major from Clinton. "The last thing I expected was to wake up and see my car covered so thoroughly that you couldn't tell what color it is." Students received word that classes would be cancelled due to snow thanks to an EagleAlert sent via e-mail and text—an amenity that many students were thankful for. "I was glad I didn't have to get up and walk to my class to find out it was cancelled. The text message was a blessing," said Mary Lois.

To some, the school break provided free time, but to most Southern Miss students, the snow day turned into a play day. Sean Sexton, freshman general studies major, said they he spent his snow day playing football on Pride field: "I was really excited to hear classes were cancelled. It was a treat and I enjoyed spending the day making snow men and starting snow ball fights." Sean was one among many who experienced winter at its best. With 5-7 inches of

snow covering campus, students drug themselves out of bed early to see the white fluff.

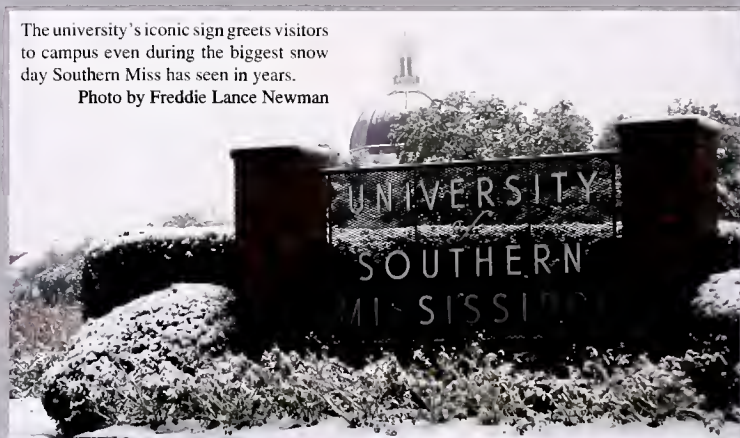
"I'm glad we got out of class and I got to play in the snow with my friends," says Mary Lois, "I got some amazing pictures in the Rock and of the Dome." With students getting a break

enjoy a weather happening not common in these parts, Southern Miss will be hitting the record books to record four school closings during spring semester thanks to the fresh powder. It's just another Snow Daze here at Southern Miss.

Story by Erick Weeks

The university's iconic sign greets visitors to campus even during the biggest snow day Southern Miss has seen in years.

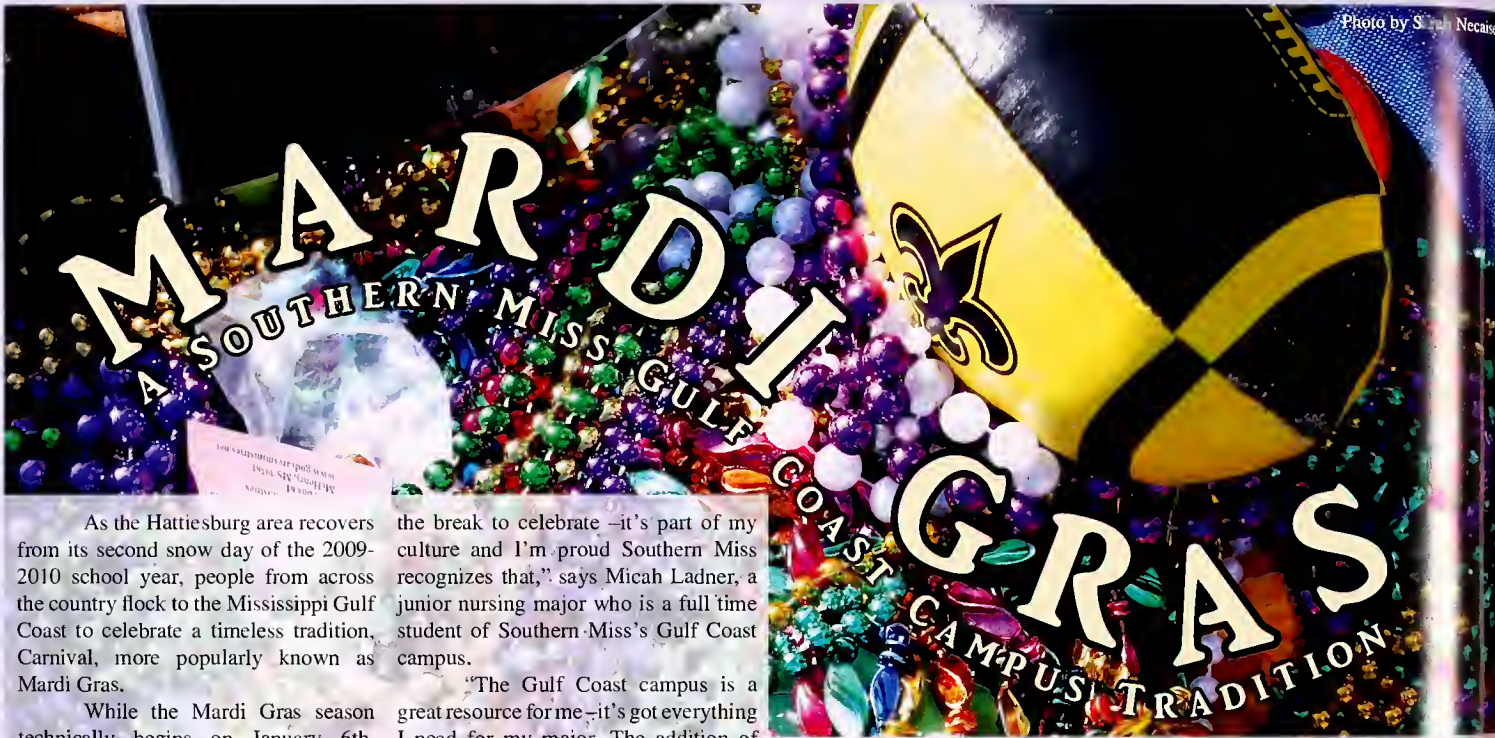
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Students play in the snow at the far end of Moemaker's Square on a Friday in celebration of classes being cancelled due to the weather.

Photo by Jay Van Orsdol





MARDI GRAS

A SOUTHERN MISS GULF COAST CAMPUS TRADITION

As the Hattiesburg area recovers from its second snow day of the 2009-2010 school year, people from across the country flock to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to celebrate a timeless tradition, Carnival, more popularly known as Mardi Gras.

While the Mardi Gras season technically begins on January 6th, also known as the Twelfth Night or the Epiphany, Fat Tuesday is the day internationally recognized as Mardi Gras.

Throughout the season, parades run throughout the Gulf Coast region, including in the community that houses the Gulf Coast branch of Southern Miss.

Most schools in Mississippi do not get time off for Mardi Gras, Southern Miss however, is one of the lucky few. "I'm thankful we get

the break to celebrate—it's part of my culture and I'm proud Southern Miss recognizes that," says Micah Ladner, a junior nursing major who is a full time student of Southern Miss's Gulf Coast campus.

"The Gulf Coast campus is a great resource for me—it's got everything I need for my major. The addition of the Mardi Gras break just finalized my decision to enroll," Micah says.

This break is justified because of the University's close proximity to the coast and the ties it has to the region because of its Gulf Coast branch.

The Long Beach campus of Southern Miss is in perfect proximity to the cities of Biloxi and Gulfport, allowing students and faculty to experience the full Mardi Gras. "Each year the celebration grows, and I'm glad

to see so many students out celebrating the event," says Dr. Hailey, an adjunct professor who was raised on just outside Gulfport. "Seeing students enjoy what I grew up on is great, but seeing them the next day in an eight a.m. class is even better."

Parades along the Mississippi Gulf Coast begin as early as January and extended until Fat Tuesday, February 16 this year.

From throwing and/or catching beads to

being part of the various Krewes active in the region, members of the Southern Miss community get involved in all aspects of this cultural tradition.

These people serve as an example that Bourbon Street in New Orleans is not the only place Mardi Gras festivities happen.

Story by Marika Smith



In New Orleans, on February 14, an anxious crowd reaches out to catch the beads thrown by masked Toth Krewe members.

Photo by Michael Swords



Beads and Flowers are thrown into the crowd from a Float in Waveland during Mardi Gras on February 7.

Photo by Sarah Necaie



A particular crowd member is tempted to get closer to a Mardi Gras float in hopes to get the ultimate prize during the Krewe of Nereids parade in Waveland.

Photo by Sarah Necaie



In Waveland, The Krewe of Nereids hands beads directly to the crowd during a Mardi Gras parade.

Photo by Sarah Necaie

SWINGING TO THE TOP

Southern Miss Baseball hosts clinic at Pete Taylor Park



When a true athlete looks down upon their coveted uniform, memories of games both won and lost will flood their memories, along with the impact his team had on his community. As Southern Miss baseball player Kameron Brunty gazes upon his own black and gold uniform, "it's a constant reminder to succeed and be the best—both on and off the field." With the 2010 season kicking off in February, the team is sure to have plenty of chances to get a little dirt on their uniforms, but what most don't know about the team is all of the "off-the-diamond" events that occur.

Lackey Simons, a junior majoring in sports management from Forest, serves as team manager. "I have a wide assortment of jobs that need to be done, but the jobs I like the most are the ones that aren't required—like going out into the community and giving back." The team recently went to the DuBard School, which provides education to special needs children. "I look for more things like that to take place in the future. The team enjoyed their time and liked getting to interact with the kids."

A weekly team building lunch is also common for members, who eat at the Baptist Student Union on Mondays. Kameron Brunty,

sophomore marketing major from Gulf Breeze, Florida says that being a Southern Miss baseball player isn't as easy as people think. "We practice everyday and only get one day off but we still find time to go to school and do things besides get ready for the game. That is how you earn real fans." Kameron, who plays left field comments that being on the Southern Miss baseball team makes me feel unique because it is a special thing getting to come out to the baseball field and play with a great group of people.

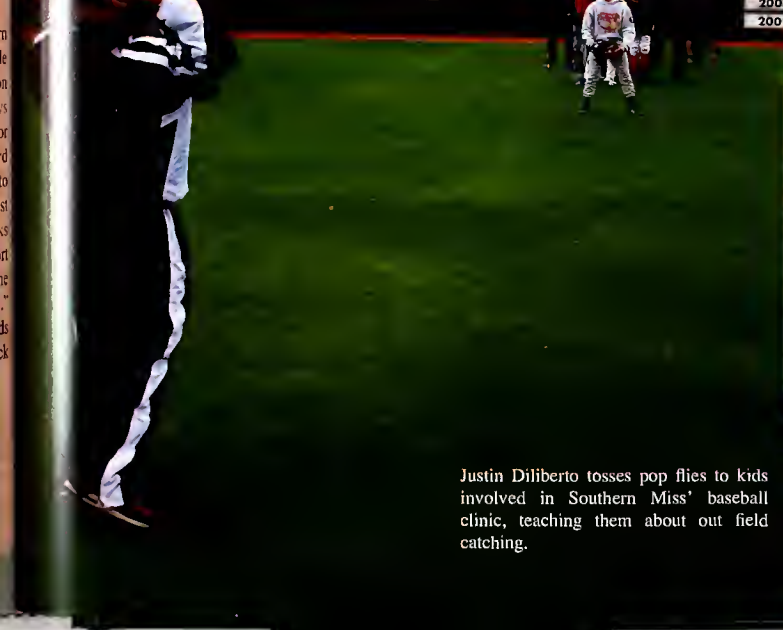
The University of Mississippi's baseball players pride themselves on being the best. "The best on the field, and the best in the community," says B.A. Vollmuth, a sophomore business major from Biloxi. The players practice every day and have a strong connection to Southern Miss and it's community. "We just try to make everyone proud. The team works hard and we want to give back the support we see at [Pete Taylor Baseball Park] to the people who are cheering us on on game days."

Story by Arielle Edwards

All Photos by Christopher Postick



YOLOR PARK N FIELD



Justin Diliberto tosses pop flies to kids involved in Southern Miss' baseball clinic, teaching them about out field catching.



B. A. Vollmuth and Travis Creel introduce themselves and prep the kids for the days' activities.



Coach Craig Harrison takes a knee to talk to one of the children participating in the clinic.

Junior short stop Jill Mathis collides with Cassie Gogreve, Indiana's catcher, to score the first run of the night for the Lady Eagles.

Photo by Casey Clingan

Sophomore second baseman Chanell Thurman reached first on a fielder's choice setting up a 4th inning rally against Notre Dame.

Photo by Casey Clingan

Lady Eagle Softball

SPORTSMANSHIP AT ITS BEST

Beginning the 2010 season with several key returners from 2009 and a current record of 11-2, the Lady Eagles of Southern Miss's softball team are shaping up to earn a record-setting reputation. Head Coach Howard Dobson credits a positive attitude and plenty of practice to winning games. "This team is known for having good sportsmanship, a trait that isn't seen as much in collegiate sports today. These girls dedicate a lot of their time and energy to improving themselves and growing as a team."

Senior outfielder Megan Hill serves as the key returner for the season, and will have a batting average of .408 with 11 home runs last season, her teammates look to her for team spirit. "It's all about keeping the energy up," said the exercise science major and Hattiesburg native. "If you can pump out your teammates, they're going to feel more confident on the field and in turn, perform better."

Lana Vaughn, a junior from Niceville, Florida knows what playing for a Division I school is all about: "The two-a-day practices are a must during preseason to get us in shape for the competition, but after that, it's all

about key skill improvement." The right handed pitcher credits Coach Dobson for the successes of the team: "He is always pushing us to improve and do better. Without his constructive criticism, we wouldn't be half the team we are today."

In this third year of coaching, Dobson has recorded heavy improvements both overall batting averages and total bases. "If you push a little harder each day, you steadily challenge yourself to do better and maintain that new caliber. It's all about hitting the field just a little bit harder than the day you did before."

While the 2010 season underway, the team will play in some twenty three more games, which will include appearances in the annual Razorback Invitational Tournament, as well as the Conference USA Tournament in Houston. "The team works very hard and I want them to do their best," says Head Coach Howard Dobson, who is in his fourth year with the team. It is sure to be an eventful season for the nineteen member team, but for certain, the Lady Eagles will continue to further the superior athletic reputation Southern Miss holds near and dear.

Story by Marie John



Sophomore left fielder Britney Dinelt homered to left field in the second inning, helping the Lady Eagles achieve a 5-0 victory.

Photo by Jordan Moore

Senior third baseman Lauren Castellvi anticipates the upcoming play in which Belmont's Ashley Byers grounds out to third.

Photo by Jordan Moore



Southern Miss Basketball



R.L. Horton attempts a three point shot to futher the Eagles' efforts against Southern Methodist University.

Photo by Jordan Moore

TAKING IT TO THE HOOP



Josimar Ayarza ascends over the competition with this lay up to put Southern Miss ahead of William Carey.

Photo by Casey Clingan



Maurice Bolden plows through Rice's defence on his way to scoring a basket for the Golden Eagles.

Photo by Casey Clingan

As the weather turns cooler and football season comes to a close, another sport gains momentum during the end of the fall semester and into the spring. Basketball is a sport revered by many in the Southern Miss community.

Fans of Golden Eagle basketball know all too well that head coach Larry Eustachy is deeply devoted to making the team all it can be.

Eustachy, in his sixth season with the Golden Eagles, has a philosophy of rebounding and defending which has helped him fashion men's basketball at Southern Miss into a team not to be taken advantage of.

This philosophy has not been more evident than in the game against Houston. The face off, which ultimately ended with a win, was most definitely not an easy one for the eagles.

However, following wins against both SMU and Tulane, the team was not to be denied.

While Houston led 29 to 15 at the half, Southern Miss pulled together in the second half and brought home the win for the Golden Eagles.

Following their win over Houston, Eustachy commented: "If I had to explain this game, it is that we had adversity after

adversity, and kept fighting through it."

"When you start out as poorly as we did, it's hard to keep playing the other aspects of the game," Eustachy said, "but, we kept playing. In the second half I thought we wanted it just a little bit more. It just came down to a bang-bang play."

The current Southern Miss team consists of 15 players and a coaching staff of seven. The players come from a variety of backgrounds. There are players from Los Angeles, Panama, New York, and even Brazil. However, despite these differences these individuals come together to play the game and help each other to be the best on the court and off.

This is evident in the team's accomplishments off the court this season. In addition to their exploits on the basketball court, the team won the C-USA SAAC Cup this year for the league's best contribution through a canned food drive benefiting Homes of Hope for Children.

The men's basketball team is playing to win—both on the court as athletes, and off the court as well-rounded Southern Miss students.

Story by Marika Smith

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

dominating the court

The ladies of the Southern Miss women's basketball team are taking no prisoners this season with a motto of "Unfinished Business." The team has stepped out to show the rest of the basketball community that they are not to be messed with.

While they have run into some obstacles on their way, the team has stuck together behind Coach Joye Lee-McNelis.

Coach Lee-McNelis, a graduate of Southern Miss, returned to the University to help the Lady Eagles reestablish the winning tradition of years past.

Lee-McNelis encourages her team members to be successful not only on the court but in the classroom and other areas of their lives as well.

"I believe that you can have an interest in a lot of things, but you have to have passion," Lee-McNelis said. "I'm very passionate about being the head coach here, and I'm passionate about the job. I think it's bigger than basketball."

In February, the team rose to a three-win streak with a win over Marshall. This game was evidence to the fact that these girls play as a team rather than as individuals and they look to each other to make plays and bring home the win.

"Our first half play was absolutely phenomenal," said Lee-McNelis. "I was so pleased. How quickly we got off to a great start, how smooth our transition game was,

we had a lot of fun."

Lee-McNelis went on to discuss the differences she saw in the team since the beginning of the season.

"I think this Lady Eagle team is hands down a different Lady Eagle team from three weeks ago," said Lee-McNelis. "They're playing with a lot of confidence. We've got multiple players making plays."

"It feels so good to see Coach running in the dressing room screaming from the top of her lungs because we finally got a win," Pauline Love, a senior from Arkansas, said. "The turnaround is happy so please keep supporting us and we will be successful."

Story by Marika Smith
All Photos by Jordan Moore



Forward Pauline Love soars into a well-executed layup during a home game against Houston.



Tanesha Washington drives towards the hole despite strong opposition from a rival guard.



Head coach Joye Lee-McNelis explains the team's next strategy during a time out.

Ashlee Kelly surveys the opposition as she plans a pass across the court to an open teammate.



Senior Candace Rucker takes a chance and makes an impressive jump shot.



PROJECT HAITI CONCERT



Singer Jerome Young performs with S.M.A.A.S.H. in a benefit concert to help raise money and donations for victims of the Haiti earthquake.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

Journe Cox smiles during the candle light vigil as the emcee thanked attendees and sponsors for their support of the event.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Brian Harris dances along to S.M.A.A.S.H. during the Project Haiti Concert. Students turned up en masse to support the Haitian plight.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

Students come together to help Haiti

The world was devastated when a 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti on January 12, 2010. Many people all across the world were coming together to help raise funds and supplies to try and counterbalance the damage. Frantz Solomon, senior music education major, had several relatives living in Port Au Prince where the earthquake wreaked most of its damage. Although Frantz's Uncle was not injured, his aunt still remains missing. Instead of sitting by idly, Frantz Solomon and other students on campus came together to create the "Project Haiti" Campaign, which helped raise funds through a concert and donation box for clothes.

Sara Ray, who serves senior public relations committee chair for the Southern Miss Activities Council, has worked

alongside Frantz and knew that something had to have been done. Sara mentioned the children that were without parents and people without homes, and could not complete the sentence without tearing up. With the support of the Southern Miss Activities Council and many other organizations on campus, The Haiti benefit concert was a smash, literally. Musical guest S.M.A.A.S.H. performed at Union Plaze—ensuring that the night was nothing short of spectacular.

The event, open to students and members of the Hattiesburg community, boasted a high attendance record and even larger success rate. A drop-off area for people who wished to donate money, clothes, non-perishable food items and other essentials was provided, and at the

end of the evening, a Salvation Army truck came to pick up the donated goods. So many people gave items to help Haiti that the Salvation Army members had to have help loading the truck.

The event also including a silent auction that consisted of donated items from various businesses in the local area, including a spa gift package from Bath Junkies and jewelry from Turkoyz. This event epitomized unity in all ways possible. It is clear that the students of the Southern Miss still have an effect on the world we live in, big or small. This event lasted several hours, but the donations and awareness raised through the event will impact Haiti for a much longer time.

Story by Erick Weeks



Elizabeth Rexford observes a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

Photo by Gillian Borden

Jan Burnmeister, from Kronber, Germany, is strongest in his serves and volleys. Burnmeister is 5-7 in singles, 8-6 in doubles with partner Julien Roussel.

Photo by Casey Clingan



Ecuador native Patricio Alvarado is considered to have one the best forehands in college tennis. Alvarado is 8-6 in singles, 3-5 in doubles with Markus Wessinghage and 5-1 with Strate Krstevski.

Photo by Roy Green



Men's Tennis

DIVERSE AND UNITED

Diego Machuca, one of the top recruited players from Ecuador, is 3-10 in singles, 4-6 in doubles with Oscar Machuca, and 2-0 with Markus Wessinghage, 2-0 with Strate Krstevski.

Photo by Roy Green

Walking onto the court with your racket in hand, sun blaring in your eyes and a Southern Miss Golden Eagle logo affixed to your chest can only mean one thing: it's tennis time in Hattiesburg. The men's tennis team, lead by Head Coach Teddy Viator, is made up of eight members, hailing from France, Germany, Ecuador and Macedonia. Sophomore Patricio Alvarado from Manta, Ecuador in the Republic of Argentina, said of the team: "We are all from very different places, but we have one common goal—win for Southern Miss."

The exercise science major returns with another major key player, Oscar Machuca, a senior from Ecuador. Both Oscar and his brother Diego play for Southern Miss' men's tennis team. Diego, who currently holds a 6-0 record, has referred to the experience as, "one of the best times I've ever had. It is amazing to watch all the hard work we put in and look back on our win record." The 2009-2010 team started off the

season in the Southern Miss Invitational in September, and will finish out in Houston while participating in the Conference USA Shootout Tournament.

Marc Lux, who serves as the graduate assistant, can easily see the improvement and dedication of the players: "These guys go out there in extreme weather conditions—everything from Hattiesburg heat in August to practice to Las Vegas for the UNLV Annual Tennis Tournament. Basically, these guys are true athletes."

Junior Jan Burmeister from Kronberg, Germany, deems himself as the team's motivator. "If you go out there with a good attitude and want to win, you'll never be disappointed." The international studies major is currently boasting a 7-0 match record and looks to keep the losses at bay: "I hope to finish out the season with no losses in a district or regional match—say a little prayer for me."

Story by Marie John



SETTING RECORDS

*women's tennis, exercising body
& mind*

As a Golden Eagle, when not diligently working towards our academic degrees in the classroom environment, some students dedicate their time to the courts. The tennis courts are where you can find eight women, working out bettering their serves and taking a break from studying. "It's a constant battle to get better, go out and win, and constantly improving," says Lauren Gutterman, a senior from Mandeville, who is also a key returner to the team. "Tennis is having both your body in shape and your head on right... it's a game of equal strength and skill."

The 2009-2010 Women's Tennis season started in October of 2009 with their annual Halloween Classic, which was held in Hattiesburg.

The traveling season started in late January of 2010 and proceeded onwards into late April. With a whopping 26 game schedule lined up for the season, our Lady Eagle tennis elites had a lot on their plate, but nothing they couldn't handle. Southern Miss Director of Athletics Richard Giannini announced Wednesday that interim women's tennis coach Raynie Theis has been promoted to take over the position full-time. Giannini

stated: "Raynie has done an outstanding job in an interim basis and our players are pleased and very excited to see her get the job on a full-time basis. She was an excellent junior and collegiate player while she was at West Virginia and gained great experience in her last coaching opportunity at the University of Massachusetts." In the end, no matter which side of the turf the ball landed on, our Lady Eagles are more than eager to hit it right back.

Junior Shannon Rodgers, a native of Virginia Beach, is proud of the team's accomplishments so far in the season: "We've worked really hard to improve our game style, and I can see myself improving after each match. Tennis is about being able to go after the win alone but knowing you've got the full support of your teammates. Our team is close so I feel good about winning and go into my matches ready to win."

The team is hoping to finish out the season with a record setting win streak, and with Coach Theis heading the way, the Lady Eagles are sure to reach their goal.

Story by Jack Spitz
All Photos by JaVokco Harris



Frances-Askew, a freshman from Auckland, New Zealand, stands close to the net ready to swing during doubles practice



Lauren Gutterman, the team co-captain from Mandeville is a senior whose leadership skills can be seen on and off the court.



Vroni van Berlo, a freshman from Erp in the Netherlands, follows through after returning a serve.



Eliza van Berlo, a sophomore from Erp in the Netherlands, is an all-around solid player. In 2008, she recorded 4-2 doubles record with her teammate, Lauren Gutterman.

Delta Gamma Anchor Splash

*Dance,
Swim,
Repeat*

The Kappa Deltas coordinate during the synchronized swimming portion of their Anchorsplash skit. Their dance, inspired by the movie *The Hangover*, and their dominance in the relays scored them a victory over the other sororities.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

This is a week on Southern Miss's campus devoted to raising money, items, and awareness of Delta Gamma's philanthropy: Service for Sight. When a visually impaired member asked for assistance from her sisters many decades ago, the now worldwide Service for Sight was created and became the first Greek philanthropy created from an internal need.

As Kathryn Plunkett, a sophomore English major from Spanish Fort, Alabama, said, "Having all the other fraternities and sororities put so much effort in to our philanthropy week really makes everything so worth while." As serving as director this year, Kathryn was responsible for organizing all the events and getting everything together to run as smoothly as possible.

This year's Anchor Splash awareness started from a series of McAlister's fundraiser nights where the community of Hattiesburg could come and support Delta Gamma by purchasing a meal and a portion went to Service for Sight. As the week progressed, there were many other events to get the attention of everyone to show support.

Besides a weeklong sit in Shoemaker Square where Delta Gammas collected items and money in individual buckets for different sororities and fraternities, the week jumpstarted with an event hard to forget: King Neptune.

The night of King Neptune, you can hear Bennett Auditorium filled with noise of hundreds of spectators gathered to watch what is sure to be quite a show. Sororities have "roll call" and cheer their chants in

unison. Soon the night starts, and the men fill the stage, one fraternity at a time. They may seem like they are about to do a simple dance on stage, but soon their costumes change, their sometimes quirky songs fill the scene, and men are twirling other men in tutus or carting off Delta Gamma's president Stephanie Latza, to the stage.

After dancing, a member answers a question about Delta Gamma history in hopes of being crowned "King Neptune" where he will reign at the poolside during the Anchor Splash water events. "My favorite part of Anchor Splash week is King Neptune. It's so much fun to see the boys take dance practices so seriously," Latza says, a junior history major from Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

When the events move to the campus natatorium, it becomes a different scene entirely. Everyone crowds around the pool—sororities choreographing dance routines to incorporate the "Love" theme and a water performance, while members of the Greek community fill the sidelines with decoration and excitement.

Anchor Splash is an event with continued success because of the support it receives from the campus and community. As Paige LeBlanc, a sophomore speech communication major from Madison, noted, "Seeing all the hard work put into this event really made me realize the importance of working together and doing as much as we can to raise money and awareness for the visually impaired."

Story by Yvette Bar

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The brothers of Pike thrill the audience with their dance moves during the King Neptune of Anchor Splash. Pike tied for second in the fraternity division of the entire Anchor Splash philanthropy with Phi Tau and Pi

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

Top Right: Various fraternities compete in the swimming relay race portion of the Anchorsplash event, with each fraternity racing to finish first in the competition.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

Bottom Right: Tri Delt's Anchorsplash dance team does a quick pose before awing the bystanders with an 80's themed performance.

Photo by Michael Swords





Riders congregate behind the scenes at 25th Annual Southern Miss Coca-Cola Classic Rodeo in the Forrest County Multi-Purpose Center Saturday night.



BJ McClenton of West Point, Mississippi clenches a bull by the horns in the steer wrestling competition. While not the most dangerous of the competitions, it is one of the busiest in terms of livestock in the arena.



Caleb Martin paces behind the bull pin awaiting his turn to compete in the saddle bronco riding competition at the 25th Annual Southern Miss Coca-Cola Classic Rodeo in the Forrest County Multi-Purpose Center Friday night.

RODEO

25th ANNUAL SOUTHERN MISS COCA-COLA CLASSIC RODEO

Southern Miss students and faculty decorated with cowboy hats and belt buckles can only mean one thing here in Hattiesburg: the "greatest show on dirt" is back in town for another night at the Forrest County Multi Purpose Center.

President Martha Saunders kicked off the evening in a horse drawn buggy, serving as Grand Marshal while tossing out treats and goodies to the audience. The event, which is co-hosted by Southern Miss' Recreational Sports Department and Coca-Cola, saw a record breaking attendance record this year. Stephanie Patterson, who serves as the Marketing Director for Rec Sports, commented that: "The amount of support shown by Southern Miss students is truly outstanding. Opening night was basically like a Southern Miss reunion."

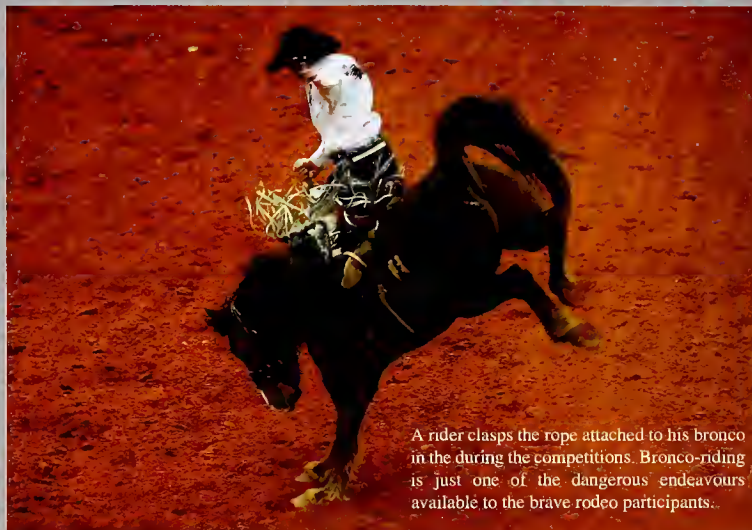
Courtney Frye, a junior forensic science major and Hattiesburg native attended the rodeo on Friday night. "I enjoyed seeing the barrel races and Dr. Saunders in the black cowgirl hat - it was a good look for her. Being from Hattiesburg has allowed me to attend the rodeo for longer than for students who move here to go to Southern Miss so I get to show them around and make sure they have a good time."

Students who purchased their tickets before the show received a discount and were entered to win a gift basket from T.J. Western Wear, to be drawn on Saturday night. Prize winner Allison McFaul, a sophomore marketing major from Pascagoula was "very surprised when I won...I plan on spending my gift certificate on a new pair of boots."

Featuring everything from the highly anticipated eight second bull rides to calf wrestling and barrel racing, the 25th Annual Southern Miss Coca-Cola Rodeo helped ring in the coming of Southern Miss' Centennial celebration, an event that Stephanie looks forward to greatly. "Southern Miss has given so much to Hattiesburg so I'm glad the community came together for a good time to give back some support and dedication to it."

While the cowboys and cowgirls won't be back for another year, it is certain that the event was a success and left a lasting impression. "I can't wait for it to be back again next year," says Allison. "I'm going to try and get front row seats!"

Story by Marie John
All Photos by Sebe Dale IV



A rider clasps the rope attached to his bronco in the during the competitions. Bronco-riding is just one of the dangerous endeavours available to the brave rodeo participants.



A rider competes in the barrel racing competition. This contest in particular emphasizes a mixture of both speed and control.

HOOPAPALUZA

Phi Mu shoots and scores for Children's Miracle Network



Tommy Whalen drives down to court for his Pi Kappa Alpha teammates. Pi Kappa Alpha placed third out of all the men's teams.

Early one Saturday, people across Hattiesburg rose with a mission. Preparing for this day takes no time at all: gym shorts, check; water bottle, check; tennis shoes, check. Now all is ready for a morning of friendly competition as these individuals gather in the Payne Center for Phi Mu's Third-Annual Hoop-a-Paluzza.

"Hoop-a-Paluzza is Phi Mu's annual philanthropy," said sophomore Kayla Gauthreaux, an accounting major from New Orleans. "We host a 3-on-3 basketball competition with each team paying an entry fee, which helps us raise money for Children's Miracle Network. The competition is single elimination with each team aspiring to gain the title of Hoop-a-Paluzza champion. I like how this event brings together the entire Hattiesburg community since we have teams composed of not just Greeks but also other students on campus along with people from the community."

"I really enjoy the event," said Phi Mu Philanthropy Chair Katie Methe, a sophomore nursing major from Gretna, Louisiana. "Hosting a philanthropy event is a big part of being in a sorority or fraternity. It gives us a greater purpose for being on campus. I also like watching our event because of how some of the teams really get into the game while most just enjoy a fun and friendly competition."

Not only do the funds raised go to the Children's Miracle Network, an organization that provides aid to families

of sick children across the country, but Southern Miss' Phi Mu chapter works with a specific branch of the network of hospitals. "The money that we raise with our philanthropy goes to the Blair E. Watson Hospital in the Children's Miracle Network in Jackson, Mississippi," said senior nursing major Love, a nursing major from Gulfport who ran the event this year. "I've been our sponsoring hospital, and I want to help with the individuals there. Other than the actual basketball game, we raise money through selling flowers for Valentine's Day, hosting raffles throughout the year, and also from hosting Chili's Nights."

Working with philanthropic events helps to engage Greek organizations in the community, as they focus on the needs of others before their own as they put countless hours into making an amazing event that is both fun and purposeful. "Philanthropy gives a deeper meaning to Greeks and the typical stereotypes as we work to better our community," said Loe.

As the tennis shoes come off and the final buzzer sounds, Hoop-a-Paluzza has reached its conclusion. Through the sweat and the cheers on the court, a sense of community among opponents has formed as each participant tried their hardest for the title of champion. More importantly, though, these individuals participated with the greater goal of supporting the Children's Miracle Network.

Story by John Barr
All Photos by Jordan Moore



This year's Hoopapaluza saw participants from both Greek and non-Greek organizations, drawing students from a very diverse selection to serve as both competitors and spectators.

Minister Walter Whitaker reads a pair of poems he wrote to the audience at Gospel Explosion.

Photo by Gillian Borde

ZETA PHI BETA

a week of spirited service



The Lambda Theta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated came back in full effect this year, emphasizing their national motto of: "A Community-Conscious, Action-Oriented Organization." The chapter, currently boasting 16 members, has lived up to its national organization's goal. The Zetas stand on four principles: Scholarship, Sisterly Love, Service, and Finer Womanhood. The members of this organization have strived to live up to the standards created by their founders, both academically and socially.

The ladies of blue and white had a very successful Blue and White Philanthropy week, which stands for Zetas Helping Other People Excel. They started off the week with a church service, continuing with a week of activities like the laser tag excursion called "Don't Dodge That Blu," and an educational program about safe sex, called "I Kid You Not" Prevention Program.

The chapter also sponsored a week long event called "Can We Pay Your Bills," which was a raffle for one bill to be paid by the Zetas. The Lambda Theta chapter also sponsored a play on words fundraiser, entitled "Topless Carwash." Tierra Clemmons, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from New Hope, Mississippi, explains, "We washed the

bottom of the car for free but you would have to pay us to was the top. We decided to do it on the weekend of the Southern Miss vs Alcorn game which doubled the amount of cars available." On top of their many community service ventures, the Lambda Theta chapter also contributed to Southern Miss's Project Haiti project by collecting clothing, food, and monetary donations.

The Zetas made history this school year by performing in Chi Omega's Step Show, strengthening the ties between the National Pan-Hellenic Council and the Pan-Hellenic Council. The organization also took first place in the Homecoming Step Show and another Step Show the women participated in at Mobile. Lambda Theta members also won the Homecoming Hops Contest for the sororities.

Even with all of the excitement, the Zetas had this year, they never lost sight of the importance of academics. They currently hold the highest grade point average among all National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations and the third highest amongst all sororities at USM. The Zetas on this campus have truly set a new standard for Southern Miss and will continue on with their founders' legacy.

Story by Eryka Wallace



(Top Left) Senior social work major and Zeta Phi Beta sorority member Kimberly Scott entertained guest during the Sleep Out for the Homeless.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

(Top Right) Zeta Phi Beta Vice President Summer Towns sings along with the choir during the Gospel Explosion held during Blue-White Phianthropy Week.

Photo by Gillian Borden



(Below) Members of the Afro-American Student Organization's Gospel Choir perform during the Goospel Explosion, led by Tim Ashmore.

Photo by Gillian Borden



The Honors College, the pinnacle of scholarly achievement among Southern Miss students, will be moving to the Honor House, its aptly named new home in early April. While the Honors College, or as Southern Miss students call it, the HoCo, has been housed in the International building for some time, moving to the Honor House will allow the college to operate more independently. "Having our own building provides us with a legitimacy that we previously haven't had by being sub-housed within the International Building," says Zachary Knight, a sophomore advertising major from Gulfport who also serves as an Honors College Ambassador.

The move will not only further the reputation of the Honors College, but it will also provide more opportunities for interaction between Honors College scholars and faculty. "I think having a defined house as the 'Honors House' will make the HoCo a more tightly knit community," says Kara

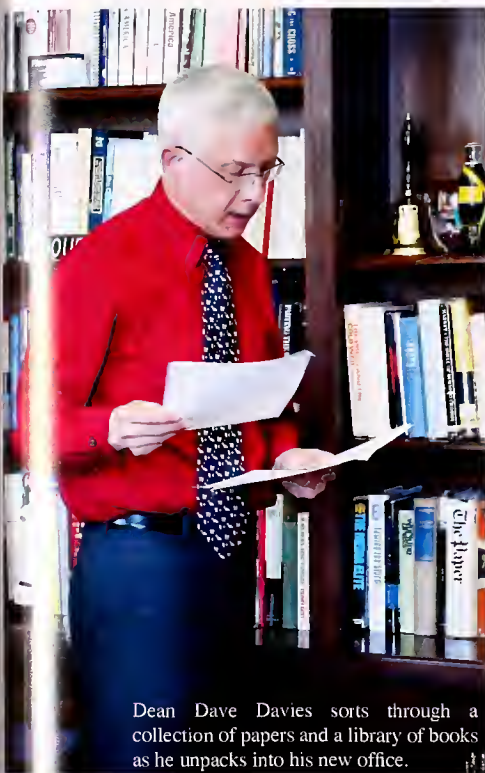
Palmer, a sophomore education major from Elk River, Minnesota: "I think the house will become a 'hang out' for incoming freshmen. We as a college hope that this will create a sense of camaraderie among the freshmen class that naturally morphs into a social network and support system.

Since its inception, the Honors College has strived to meet the needs of academically talented students at Southern Miss. Stacey Ready, the coordinator of general honors, has had the opportunity to see the college grow.

Having worked closely with the Honors College since 1996, Stacey says of the growth of the Honors College: "Probably the most striking change has been our growth as a college. Our enrollment has grown steadily since I've been here. I think that growth speaks volumes about what we are doing right as an Honors College."

The move to the Honor House will provide the growing number of Honors College students a space to

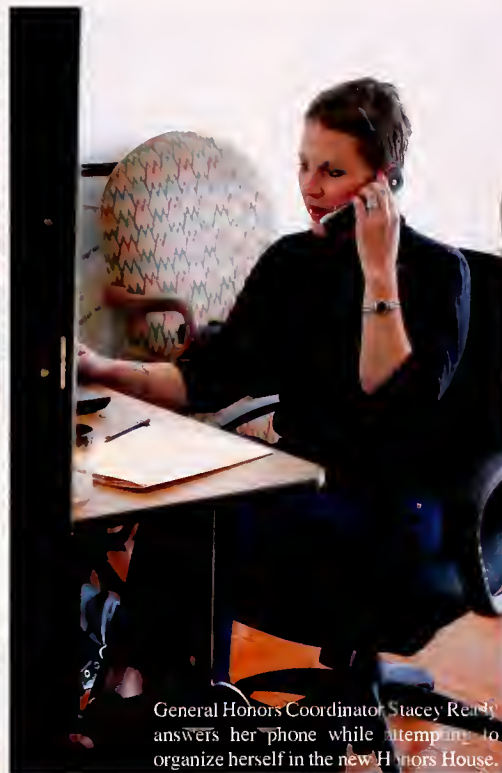
HEADING TO THE HONORS HOUSE THE HOCo COMES HOME



Dean Dave Davies sorts through a collection of papers and a library of books as he unpacks into his new office.



Sonya Evans, administrative secretary to the Honors College, sorts through several boxes during the initial move.



General Honors Coordinator Stacey Ready answers her phone while attempting to organize herself in the new Honors House.

study or hang out, with a student lounge, a computer lab, and two teaching spaces. Honors College officials hope this will bring students and faculty together, which students like Kaycie Hall claim to be the best benefit of the Honors College.

"I have met several great professors through the Honors College, including my honors thesis adviser Dr. Jameela Lares, who has been such a great help to me in the past few years," the English

and French major from Jackson says.

Close interaction with professors and creative learning experiences mark the Honors College experience from the beginning of the college career. "My best Honors College experience was my very first honors college course with Dr. Angela Ball," Kaycie says. "It was a world literature course centered around the idea of the senses in literature—specifically taste. Dr. Ball cooked for us

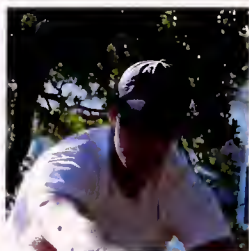
each week as we discussed our texts, and at the end of the semester, she welcomed us into her home for a big meal. It was a fun and creative class."

From studying the senses in literature to meeting a future thesis advisor, the Honors College has provided Kaycie Hall and many students like her with a unique and exciting educational opportunity, and hopefully, the move to the Honor House will only bolster a long-standing

tradition of educational excellence. Any changes, according to Stacey Ready, "will be made with the students' goals and desires firmly in mind!" Regardless of a new location, the Honors College will continue to serve the scholars of Southern Miss, and as time goes by, it will only get better.

Story by Hannah Ryan
All Photos by Sam Light

putting



together

the

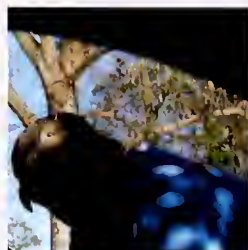
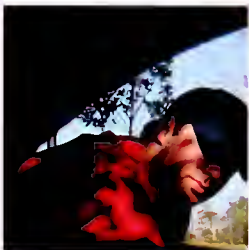
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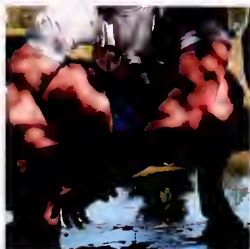
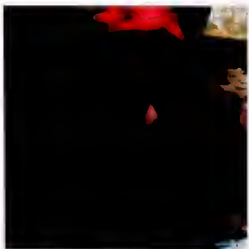
SIGMA

CHI

DERBY



DAYS



Lee Johnson, Kenny Wells, and Ridge Benefield of Sigma Chi search across campus in hopes of finding the perfect spot to hide their derby hat that sorority members must find by the week's conclusion.

Photos by Freddie Lance Newman

When most people think of fraternity events, they reminisce on late night parties, insurmountable camaraderie and plenty of fun to go around. Though these are often the fondest memories, one fraternity on Southern Miss' campus is using its influence to create fun memories for a good cause. Sigma Chi holds its annual Derby Days competition to benefit the Children's Miracle Network, a tradition long awaited each year.

"It means a lot because we get to show to our Greek life community, our university, and our National Fraternity the effort and time we put into our philanthropy," says Michael Cobb, a sophomore business administration major from Meridian.

The Derby Days dance off is an event that relies on the participation of Southern Miss sorority members, who choreograph dances to compete for the title of overall winner. Sigma Chi auctions off some of its members to be each team's dance coaches for the sororities participating.

Another event occurring during the week is the annual Derby Hat Scavenger Hunt, where chapter members hid a derby bowler hat somewhere on campus, and the team who finds the hat is given extra points in the competition. Sophomore member JoJo Bridges, a kinesiotherapy major from Pearl, was asked to help hide the bowler

and commented: "I hid it so well that it should take the whole week before anyone can find it."

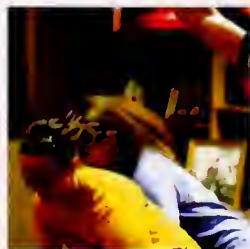
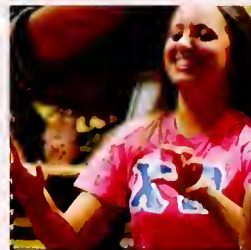
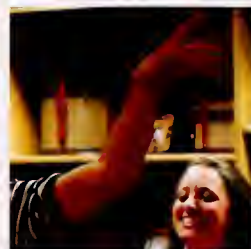
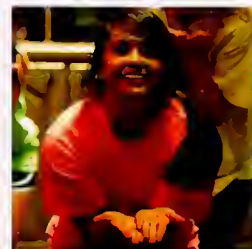
Events like this take much time and preparation to organize—everything from choosing a band and theme to renting a bus to visit the Blaire E. Batson Children's hospital in Jackson. On average, the Sigma Chi of Southern Miss raise an average of four to six thousand dollars each year for the Children's Miracle Network.

"I'm very proud of all the hard work that our chapter puts in to help raise money," says sophomore Kyle Williams, a biology major from Dalewood, Mississippi. "We really do get to make a difference, and I love seeing what new dance moves the girls come up with."

There are times when Southern

Miss students choose to stand out above the rest and focus on the important things like helping others. Members of Sigma Chi have not only sought to help Children's Miracle Network but also found a way to get the other fraternities and sororities involved in a fun and successful philanthropy.

Story by Divah Griffin



Chi Omega Derby Days Dancers practice for the sorority dance competition with the help of their Sigma Chi coaches, Pat Busby and Stuart Hurt.

Photos by Christopher Bostick



Kukuwa Dance Workout

The Kukuwa Dance Workout was held on February 2nd. Christina Gladney, a senior community health major from Grenada, Mississippi practices an authentic African dance move. The workout was for two straight hours and all present left the room sweating from their efforts.

Photo by Samantha M. Light

On February 9th, Bob Zellner, member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and Harold Taylor, a former member of The Black Panthers, spoke on their experiences in their lives.

Photo by Casey Clingan

Civil Rights





inSPIRIT Dance Company

On February 18th, the inSPIRIT Dance Company performed in Marsh Auditorium. This company is originally from New York and performed African-inspired dances.

Photos by Freddie Lance Newman



FEBRUARY RECAP



The February 1998 issue of the magazine "The American" featured a story about the "The American" magazine. The story was written by the author of the "The American" magazine. The story was about the "The American" magazine.



Southern Miss alumni Jared Hopkins and N.T. Bullock debut their film "Iran Against Us" for the student body at Southern Miss. The romantic comedy showcases an



SHOWCASING STUDENT CREATIVITY

With over 16,000 students attending Southern Miss, the University is sure to have an abundance of talent—from singers, dancers, artists, and everything in between. For Cody Schlagel, the Southern Miss Activities Council, more commonly known as SMAC, gave him the perfect opportunity to showcase this talent. This opportunity came out at the first annual Southern Miss Has Got Talent show held for students this spring.

"I'm not your typical performer...I'm an athletic guy so most people don't believe me when I tell them I'm a pretty good poet," Cody says. The senior baseball player wowed the crowd with an original poetry performance. "I just got up there and did my thing—I'm glad people liked it."

Frantz Salomon, SMAC's president, was pleased with event: "We wanted to spice it up from Southern Miss Idol and let it be more than just singers. It's people like Cody who have great talent and deserve the chance to showcase it."

The event, held in Bennett Auditorium, boasted a crowd of over five hundred, where the top finalists were given three minutes

to show the audience "what they got," says Frantz, who helped select the finalists through rounds of tryouts held in the newly renovated Student Activities Hub.

Molly Egloff, a sophomore History major from Bay St. Louis commented: "Attending the show was very fun. I was proud to see such a wide array of talent here at Southern Miss."

Lee Anna Woodcock, Southern Miss Idol 2009, served as a judge for the event, and agrees that competition was fierce: "the caliber of talent that the students displayed was at its highest." Lee Anna, who sang for her talent, said it was a great growth to include talent apart from singing: "I'm a singer and I'm thankful to have had to chance to show that, but SMAC is moving forward and opening up to new and different talents."

Overall, Southern Miss Has Got Talent provided students, like Cody, the chance to showcase unique skills to the entire student body and carry the title for a full year to come.

Story by Marie John



Judge and winner of Southern Miss Idol 2009, Lee Anna Woodcock plays a special medley midway through the show.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

Melissa McCraw with guitar and hermonica sings a cover of Tolor Swift's "Teardrops on My Guitar."

Photo by Casey Clingan



Casey Taggart took second place with this performance of Michael Bublé's "Everything."

Photo by Christopher Bostick



SOUTHERN MISS HAS GOT TALENT

Baseball player Cody Schlagel clinched the win with an unorthodox but enthralling performance of his original poetry.

Photo by Christopher Bostick





The Pi Kapp brothers celebrate their win over Sigma Alpha Epsilon by doing their chant in the center of the court.

Photo by Gillian Borden

KEEPING IT Classic

PI KAPPA PHI SHOOT & SCORES IN THE 9TH ANNUAL CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

When the Pi Kappa Phi's elections neared, one brother had his eyes set on a particular office: philanthropy chair.

Luke Post, a sophomore secondary education major from Mandeville, wanted to improve upon the foundation of his fraternity's philanthropy and received the opportunity after obtaining the philanthropy chair position. The Theta Alpha Chapter at Southern Miss hosts the Pi Kapp Classic each year—a basketball tournament against another

fraternity chosen through a bidding session. Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity served as this year's opponent in the event, which raises money for Push America, which supports children with mental and physical disabilities.

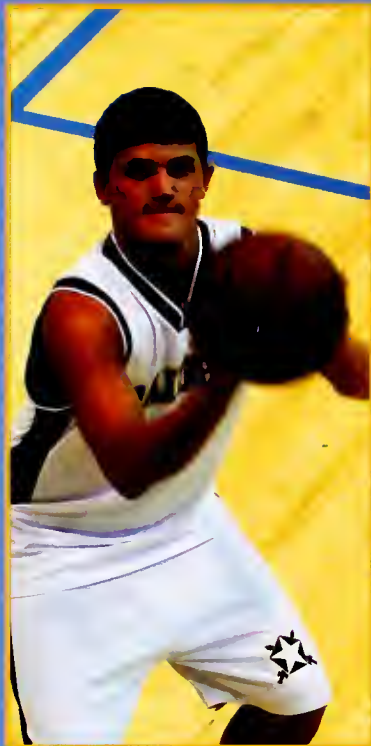
"I wanted to raise awareness for Push America and do more than simply raising money," said Post. "My vision for the Classic was to make it fun in order to get people out there to support our cause."

Push America is an integral part of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity. Instead of simply being a national foundation without concrete ties to the organization, Push America was actually started by a brother of Pi Kappa Phi.

"The brothers remain closely united to fulfilling the mission of Push America because Pi Kappa Phi is the only fraternity that owns and operates its own national philanthropy," said senior Sam Muller, a biology major from Lacombe, Louisiana. "Through various events, the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi are able to enhance the lives of people with disabilities while also highlighting the abilities of these individuals."

Southern Miss' Pi Kappa Phi chapter works specifically with the Evansville State School in connection with Push America, which allows the fraternity's members to witness the impact that they are making on the lives of so many children.

In addition to the events hosted by this chapter, the national fraternity hosts two annual cross country bike races funding Push America. Having participated in the "Gear Up Florida" bike race stretching



Jonathan Robinson, a junior from Taylorsville, Mississippi, shoots a basket, securing a lead for the men of Pi Kappa Phi.

Photo by Jordan Moore

“Through various events, the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi are able to enhance the lives of people with disabilities while also highlighting the abilities of these individuals.” -Sam Muller

800 miles across the state, Muller feels an ever deeper connection to his fraternity’s philanthropy. “Both cycling events serve to fulfill the true goals of Push America: to raise community awareness while enhancing the lives of individuals who are disabled,” explained Muller. “My trip across Florida was, without a

doubt, a grueling and physical challenge. However, our team stayed focused on the people we were riding for.”

Through Muller’s experience with Push America, he was able to grasp the true concept of philanthropy—aiding those in need while also growing in return.

“Throughout the trip, I was told by community leaders that we impacted the lives of each person with a disability in such a tremendous way,” said Muller. “And while I hope that is true, I know that it couldn’t possibly compare to the impact these people have made in my own life. Despite their disabilities, the

people I met are able to stay so strong and remain resilient through their daily struggles. Their smiles made me realize that any situation can breathe hope.”

Story by John Barr



Marcus Dufor has his Sigma Nu pin accompanying a pin representing the Interfraternity Council (above).

Photo by Michael Swords

BADGE

THE HISTORY AND MEANING BEHIND THE SORORITY

The secrecy of Greek Life rituals has created remarkable interest throughout Southern Miss history. While each Greek letter organization has its own specific rituals, there are certain themes and activities that repeat throughout all or most of them. A common factor for members of these organizations is the ownership of a relic, reminding the member of the secret ritual that is held so close to their heart—literally.

Thus, the badge; it represents not only unity of members, but a sense of pride. When the initiates have committed themselves to the organization, they receive their badge or pin, and the symbolism of the badge is explained to the newest members. The badges vary greatly from organization to organization but frequently feature unique shapes, engravings, letters, and symbols.

On the first Monday of each month, known as "Greek Dress Up Day," as well as other important events like Founders' Day or individual philanthropies, sorority women can often be found sporting their badges. Typically, stipulations do apply before a member can place their badge in front of their heart. Rules like "professional dress only with no denim" are a common example, says Julia Bradley, a freshman Chi Omega member and Hattiesburg native. "Getting the privilege of wearing this badge just gives me another reason to dress up." Julia, who

is the tenth Epsilon Delta member of Chi Omega in her family, wears a unique badge because she has been given the "Model Initiate" title from Chi Omega's National Headquarters. Just six or eight women have worn the badge itself since 1895.

Tri Delta's Laura Perry, freshman general studies major, has a special connection with the badge: "My badge belonged to my mother—she received it when she was a Tri Delta in college. Being initiated was a very proud moment for my mother and I because she was able to pass down her legacy to me." Some badges are different in shape and design: "My badge is different from the others because it has a trident attached to the actual pin, which then carries on with specific colors and shapes significant to my sorority. I have pride in Tri Delta when I wear it because it represents that I am a part of something historic."

Delta Gammas Mary Margaret Stafford, freshman public relations major from Hattiesburg, feels very strongly about her badge. "Delta Gamma's badge is the anchor and it is important to us." Mary Margaret also commented: "Whenever we wear our badge, we dress up to show respect for Delta Gamma and all that it means to us. Wearing the badge is a privilege and a piece of who we are and gives us a connection to share with one another."

Story by Ariell Edwards

DAY

AND FRATERNITY BADGE

Chi Omega member Hayley Ivy proudly displays her mother's pin, which has been turned into a ring. Sorority legacies often have family jewelry passed down generation to generation.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



A special pin from Chi Omega Nationals graces Southern Miss' own Julia Bradley. Bradley was chosen as the model initiate for Chi Omega and will wear the rare pin until she is initiated June 27th at the National Convention in Florida.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Evelyn Nesbit, played by Twoey Truong, is lowered down from the rafters on an ornate swing. She performs from her perch, delivering a song within the play.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



RAGTIME:

musical theatre at Southern Miss

A sawdust covered head of an unidentified animal hangs above the door of one of the offices in the scene shop of Southern Miss. Inside sits a middle-aged man with grey-blond hair, work boots and sawdust ingrained in his jeans. This is Wes Hanson, the scene shop supervisor at the department of Theater and Dance at Southern Miss, as he discusses his role in the recent musical extravaganza, *Ragtime*, a collaboration between the Department of Theater and Dance and the School of Music at Southern Miss, in which he both acted and designed the scenery. Hanson, who played the Grandfather in *Ragtime*, did not even audition for the role. "They were looking for a grumpy old guy and they asked me," he chuckles.

Ragtime, a musical drama set in the early twentieth century, follows the stories of three groups of Americans—whites, African Americans, and immigrants—as they each pursue their idea of the American Dream. Southern Miss' production of *Ragtime* featured period costumes, and a working Ford Model-T, designed by Wes Hanson. "I started thinking about it in September, and then Stellhorn (the tech

director at Southern Miss) was doing through Lumberton and brought this piece of crap," he says, motioning to a picture of the corroded frame of a Model T. Building the Model T took several months to complete.

Ragtime took plenty of effort to stage on the creative front as well as the technical. "Those involved had the dedication to what they're doing that they should have," says Wes Hanson, who worked over sixteen hour days during the production period. "I expect a lot of myself. I'm a performer, you know," he says. The culture of hard work and high expectations makes the arts at Southern Miss stand out.

Just as *Ragtime* portrays both the tension and collaboration between different ways of life, the departments of Theater and Dance and the School of Music at Southern Miss come together to put on a great show. In the same way the character Tateh went from impoverished immigrant to successful director in *Ragtime*, the arts departments at Southern Miss show that hard work pays off.

Story by Hannah Ryan

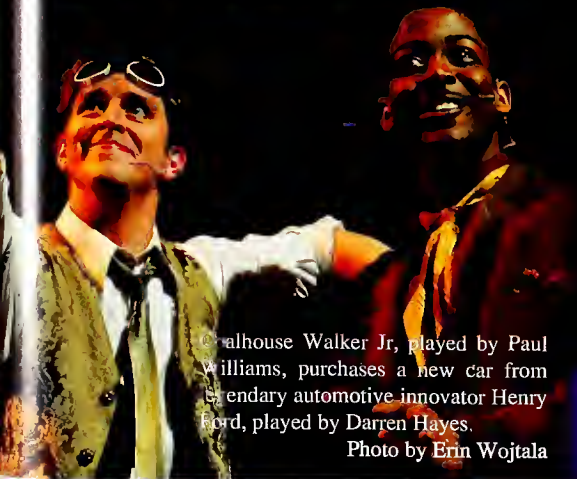
Lori Birrer, as Mother, basks in the sun as she awaits her son's return.
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



The Father, played by Dr. J. Taylor Hightower, and his son Edgar, played by Meredith Morris, attend a baseball game.
Photo by Erin Wojtala



Walhouse Walker Jr, played by Paul Williams, purchases a new car from legendary automotive innovator Henry Ford, played by Darren Hayes.
Photo by Erin Wojtala



Tateh, played by Joe Hernandez, comforts and sings to his daughter, played by Megan Poole. The characters, immigrants fresh off the boat, long for the "American Dream."
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



GOING GREEN

BOTTLES, BOXES, BAGS, AND CANS

Southern Miss was formally launched two years ago, but the Southern Miss Green Initiative has made a variety of eco-friendly changes to the way the University community conducts daily affairs. The Office of Sustainability, created through the green initiative, most notably maintains the Southern Miss recycling effort.

Larry Lee, chief sustainability officer at Southern Miss, said since his office was created two years ago they have done a number of things to help the university become more 'green'.

The Southern Miss campus has the first fully funded, professionally staffed sustainability program in the region, Lee said. He also explained that Southern Miss has the 'nation's largest recycling program at an institution of higher education (and) Mississippi's largest Earth Week celebration.'

This year's RecycleThon competition has been incredibly successful with a number of teams collecting hundreds of pounds of recyclable materials each week. Katharine Green, a professor of political science, has collected recyclable materials throughout the semester by providing containers outside her office. "Going green takes work," she says, "but in the end it is worth so much."

Martha Saunders, president of the University of Southern Mississippi, said she believes the Office of Sustainability has made great strides toward creating a more eco-friendly campus.

"There is little doubt we have been successful in introducing real and significant differences to the campuses and teaching sites of Southern Miss regarding sustainability efforts,"

Saunders said. "However there is still work to do and we are dedicated to seeing efforts continue."

"There have been significant contributions made in helping the university achieve its sustainability goals through the development of programs such as campus-wide recycling, EcoEagle Bikes, lectures, curriculum development, greenhouse gas inventories, and responsible purchasing policies," said Saunders. "The EcoEagle Bike program has been particularly popular with students and is a program we will grow over the next several years."

Currently, the Office of Sustainability is working on making campus events more 'green', eliminating styrofoam from campus, and finally a comprehensive Climate Action Plan designed to create climate neutrality by 2050, Lee said.

When asked what she hopes to see the office do in the future, Saunders said the Climate Action Plan, part of the American College and University President's Climate Commitment, which established the Office of Sustainability, is the most urgent.

"Beyond that endeavor, a continued dedication in involving students with sustainability initiatives is a priority," said Saunders. "Additionally, continued education for the entire university community relating to sustainability issues is critical as we move forward with the University's sustainability efforts."

Story by Marika Smith
All photos by Casey Clingan



A pair of dedicated volunteers pack down the scales to get an accurate reading. Many volunteers helped with the Going Green initiative and the RecycleThon.



Hayley McMinn records the number of bags of recycled goods received that morning.



A volunteer reaches down to move boxes onto a flat. The Recyclethon has had great success on the Southern Miss campus.



Alex Parker and Sundee Lewis carry their recycling toward the collecting area.



Bradley Cham, one looks down to read the weight of how much he just recycled.



Gary Osorno, father of SigEps Chase and Gavin Osorno, stirs his chili that is almost ready to serve to the hungry crowd.

Photos by Casey Clingan

SIGEP FIFTH ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF EVENT

BRINGING TOGETHER THE COMMUNITY TO CREATE FLAVORS OF CHANGE

Looking back on his first Chili Cook-off experience, one Sigma Phi Epsilon brother noticed the transformation the event has undergone throughout the years.

Now a junior, Chase Osorno, an entrepreneurship major from New Orleans, witnessed the success of his fraternity's philanthropy as it hosted its largest event yet. Adapting to its gradual increase in size over the years, the cook-off's location migrated from the side parking lot of the Sig Ep house to this year's position in the District. With the ultimate goal of raising funds for the Children's Wish Endowment, the event focused on bringing the community together around a favorite indulgence—specifically, chili.

"Every team puts a different kind of spin on their chili," said Osorno. "They all try to make their chili stand out so that they will win. The flavors change each year, and you have to taste it yourself to get the true experience."

Along with the alterations to the spices added to the teams' chili, the event as a whole added a few extra ingredients. The selection process introduced a new winner for the event, chosen by the audience, in addition to the traditional category for Greek organizations and the open division that included all of the other



(Top) Nicole Nettles and Moli Thornton of Kappa Delta enjoy themselves as they prepare their sorority's entry into the cookoff competition.

(Bottom) SigEp Daniel Cass plummets to the bottom of the dunking booth.

Photos by Casey Clingan

Carter Road performs in the district at the chili cookoff, providing a musical backdrop for the event. Ryan Pique on vocals, Anthony Struts lead guitar, Beau Bogard guitar, Austin Roebuck bass, and Brian Farris drums.

Photo by Gillian Borden



organizations both on and off campus who participated. This year's cook-off also involved new forms of entertainment for those attending with a dunking booth, silent auctions, and raffles along with the 2nd Annual Jalapeno Eating Contest, all accompanied with musical entertainment provided by Carter Road.

Funding the Children's Wish Endowment is also a change for the fraternity, who supported Youth Aids in

past years. This revision now enables the Sig Ep brothers to experience the change that they are making. "Supporting Children's Wish Endowment allows the fraternity to focus more on impacting an individual person," said chili cook-off co-chairman Tim Finnigan, a senior broadcast journalism major from Satsuma, Alabama. "This enables our guys to feel more of a connection with this cause, giving us a concrete example

of the impact we have made."

The change that the philanthropy has experienced over the years exemplifies the foundation of Sig Ep's "Balanced Man" principle, allowing the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon to aid the community while simultaneously growing as a brotherhood.

"We constantly strive to make our event better while always maintaining a balance," said Finnigan. "Our event

has been able to consistently build upon tradition while never relying upon a particular pattern. The incorporation of diversity in the event allows those attending to enjoy themselves as they also obtain the feeling that they have assisted in a positive change for the community."

Story by John Barr

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

a new beginning for one of our own

Constructing a house is often left to architects and carpenters, but building a home is left up to Southern Miss students teaming up to help a fellow Golden Eagle—at least in Melissa Carpenter's case. Habitat for Humanity partnered up with the Office of Community Service Learning to provide a house for Ms. Melissa, who serves as a secretary in the newly renovation Student Activities Hub.

Melissa Carpenter is a woman who is known across campus, not only for her efforts for Southern Miss, but her candor, compassion and determination in philanthropic work. Carpenter, a native Hattiesburg dweller, lost her home after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, which led to the Habitat for Humanity student-led build. Over four hundred students volunteered for the event which consisted of a kick off week with non-stop work shifts.

IFC president Marcus Dufour, a senior criminal justice major from New Orleans, recalls the idea of getting students together for a massive community service project from previous head of Greek Life, Trey Skaggs. "He (Skaggs) brought the idea from LSU to organize Greek Life into one giant philanthropy, with a sense of Greek unity and in the end the knowledge that all our


hard work would be the foundation of a house, and a home life." When asked why Ms. Melissa was considered, his response came without hesitation: "Ms. Melissa was on top of the list. The woman does so much for this campus, for the students; she deserves this, and tenfold more."

Ms. Carpenter is involved with several philanthropic organizations and student activities on campus on top of her secretarial job. Throughout the month of March, students came together to help build a home for Ms. Carpenter, who jokingly said: "I can't wait to tell house guests at dinner, see that nail? I know who put that in."

A special memory Ms. Melissa will treasure is the Bible verses that volunteers put on the walls before final painting took place: "No one will ever see it," she comments, "but I will always know they're there."

When asked to comment on the event that not only provided her with a house, but a home and Southern Miss family, Ms. Melissa only had one thing to say: "Thank you all so much for the support, it is truly a dream come true"

Story by Jack Spitz



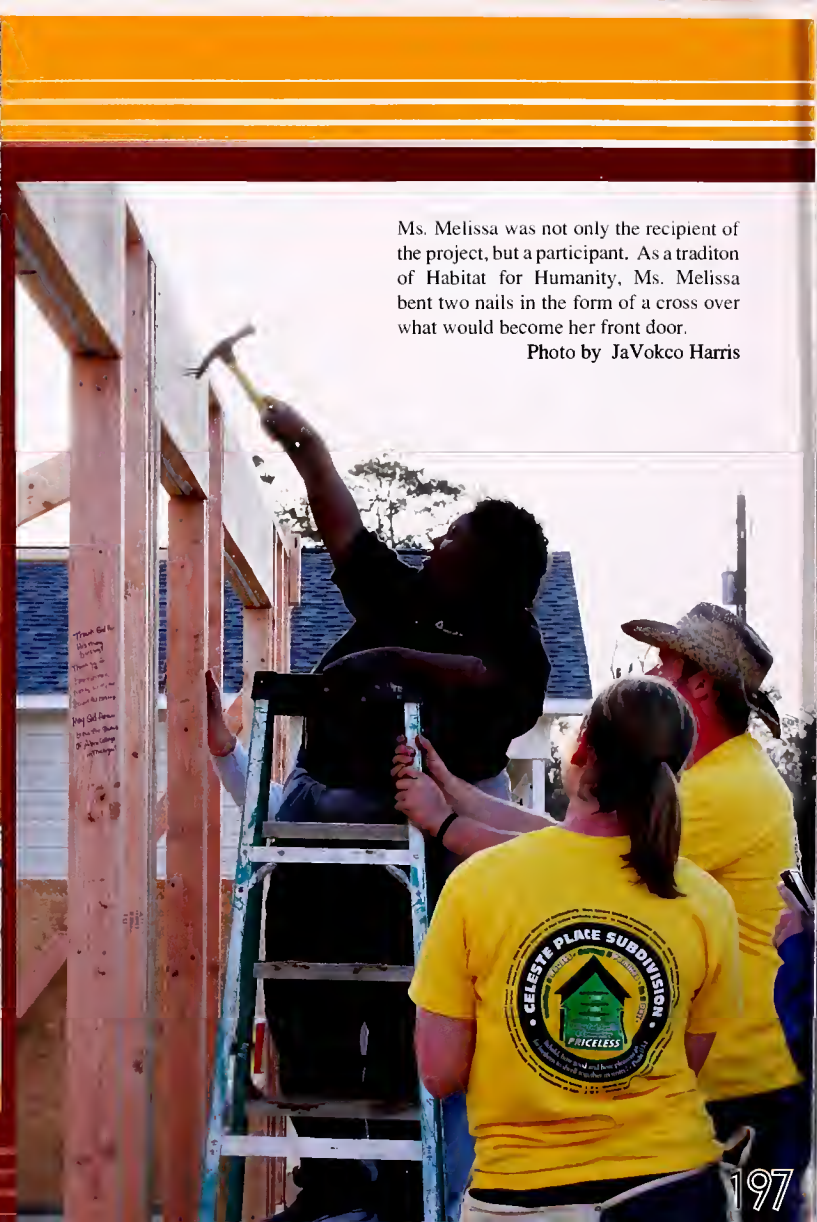
Freshman Samantha Wells works on the frame for Ms. Melissa's new home. As a Luckyday Scholar, she has participated in service projects throughout the year.

Photo by Gillian Bordan



Student volunteers came from across the university community; what began as a project for the Greek system rapidly expanded to include student organizations and otherwise unaffiliated volunteers.

Photo by JaVokco Harris



Ms. Melissa was not only the recipient of the project, but a participant. As a tradition of Habitat for Humanity, Ms. Melissa bent two nails in the form of a cross over what would become her front door.

Photo by JaVokco Harris



The American Marketing Association helped collect donations for the Southern Pines Animal Shelter as part of a community service initiative.

1: Barbara McMiller makes a donation to AMA's cause

2: Eyslyn Hunt accepts a donation from Sean Peters.

3: AMA member Ashley Sneed delivers a passionate pitch to passers-by.

Photos by Gillian Borden

STUDENT SPEECH AND HEARING



Ashley Campbell, a member of the Student Speech and Hearing Association (SSHA) examines an audiometer at the Mississippi Speech-Language Hearing Association annual conference. The SSHA attends the conference every year.

Photo Submitted by Emily Guyton



HUB FEST

Left: Charles Arinder, in burrito regalia, advertises for the Caliente Grill. Local businesses were out in full force to support Hub Fest.

Photo by Casey Clingan

Right: Local artist Matthew Funches performed at Hub Fest. Funches has gained a sizable following in Hattiesburg throughout this year.

Photo by Gillian Borden

NEW GREEN SPACE



Left: Crystal Shank enjoys the new green space, soaking in some sunlight while reading for English class.

Right: Jordan Garrett and Chris Evans practice their fundamentals during a football game. Students have taken to using the new green space for all sorts of recreation.

Photos by Gillian Borden

GOLD LEAF SOCIETY

Some of this may be fiction, but this much is fact: on November 21, 2005, a mysterious landmark appeared on the lawn just West of Danforth Chapel, and the university was never the same.

The landmark is a rock emblazoned with a circular seal containing 7 stars, a 7 pronged leaf, and the number 1877, a year that far predates our beloved institution. Because of the peculiar date, many perturbed school administrators mistook the giant rock as a fraternity or sorority stunt. At that point, only Gregg Lassen the former Chief Financial Officer of the University knew the truth. He received an anonymous letter that morning:

"A group of individuals has taken an oath to commit itself to the betterment of the University of Southern Mississippi. We are writing to announce the formation of The Gold Leaf and to pledge our efforts to the improvement of our beloved Southern Miss." Along with the letter was a donation of \$777.77 to the University to be allocated as best saw fit.

One must slip through the veil of myth to truly examine the pomp and circumstance of this secret society. Primarily, one must know that "7" is more than just a focal point with the society, it's an obsession. From sending letters on the 7th of a month, to their P.O. Box # 707, the number is fundamental to the society.

Photo by Christopher Bostick
Stories by Thomas L. Grubbs



KNOWN:

- Gifts of \$777.77 to numerous administrators to utilize "totally at their discretion"
- Sponsored The Gold Leaf Room in the Thad Cochran Center, worth \$25,000 dollars, with the first of seven installments characteristically sent on 7/07/07.
- A \$17,777.77 donation toward the Centennial Gateway at the front of campus.
- A specially tailored Seiko watch with the University seal on its face given to each incoming SGA President over the past five years. Each is given a letter during the Founders' Day presentation with a riddle to the watcher's location.
- The Gold Leaf Seal can be found at four campus locations: the Centennial Gateway, the newly renovated Powell Ogletree Commons House, the Gold Leaf Room, and the Marker by Danforth Chapel.
- A recognition of faculty and staff members with a minimum of seven years of service. At the 2007 Founder's Day, some twenty-one prominent members around campus were recognized.

SUSPECTED:

- The 1877 on the seal, while peculiar at first, seems quite rational. In 1877, the Mississippi Teachers Association was founded and its goal was to establish a normal state college, even if it did not accomplish that goal until a quarter century later.
- The University of Virginia is the birthplace of the "Seven Society," many corresponding societies have spawned at other universities since. Furthermore, the number 7 appears throughout the history of the university, including the number of original buildings on campus.
- Some believe that there are in fact only 7 members in the entire society.

SOCIETY of 1910

If little is known about The Gold Leaf Society, perhaps even less is known about the Society of 1910. While no one knows the exact date, the society emerged around the same time as the Gold Leaf.

The word "unite" is found in both the opening and closing sentences of the society's declaration document. Furthermore, a letter to the Director of Greek Life concerning the Greek community, from some years ago, states the following:

As individual organizations seeking personal glory we stand only to accomplish for... There will be a time in the near future whereby each organization must unite their influence in order for the Greek community's best interest to be achieved."

The Society of 1910 most certainly has Greek undertones to it, and some speculate that only male Greek members are among its ranks. The society does sign every letter and document with the Latin insignia: *Esse Quam Videri*. This phrase translates as, "to be rather than to seem to be," and has been the motto for several other groups throughout history. The declaration document of the society claims that membership is very widespread:

"As students past and present, we are driven by our overriding founding principle; to work all things for the betterment of the University of Southern Mississippi. We are proud to count among our ranks students from every walk of university life..."

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



KNOWN:

- Much of the society's campus decorations involve Homecoming and Founder's Day. Examples: hanging "1910" banners from the roof of the Powerhouse and other locations on campus, growing "1910" in a contrasting type of grass in front of The Gold Leaf marker, and placing posters with a "19" written on them in front of the 10-yard-line marker at the Eagle Walk.

- On the eve of Homecoming, the rock in the District has been painted black with "EQV" in white.

- On Founders' Day this past year, several SGA officers received lapel pins with the university logo and a letter of encouragement on their respective office desks.

- In November of '09, the Society sent business cards to be passed out to every sorority and fraternity member on campus. Presidents received letters to be read to their members encouraging unity and cooperation during the centennial year of the university.

- The placing of *Esse Quam Videri* or EQV in the publications and programs of Greek philanthropies.

SUSPECTED:

- There's a secret hand signal that members of the Society of 1910 use as an indicator of their involvement.

- There could be a connection between the Society of 1910 and "The Blackbird," which was a controversial society in the late 1920's. The declaration document of the Society of 1910 contains a distinct drawing of a blackbird and the Society altered its seal this year to contain an outline of a bird to go along with the original olive branches. It seems highly unlikely that there is any connection between the benevolent Society of 1910 and the once dreaded society known as "The Blackbird."

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Photo by Christopher Bostick

2010

THE SUN WAS OUT IN RARE FORM, CASTING BRIGHT LIGHT ACROSS THE GATHERED CROWDS OF ALUMNI AND STUDENTS. THE CAMPUS BLOOMED ALL AT ONCE, EVERY YARD CARPETED WITH NEW GRASS AND EVERY WALKWAY LINED WITH BRIGHT FLOWERS. ON MARCH 30TH, 2010, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI TURNED ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD, APPLAUDED AND CELEBRATED BY OLD AND NEW GOLDEN EAGLES ALIKE. EVEN INTO THE DARK OF THE EVENING, A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, PURPOSE, AND STRENGTH PERVADED THE CAMPUS AS SOUTHERN MISS EDGED EVER CLOSER TO THE BEGINNING OF A WHOLE NEW CENTURY IN ITS EXISTENCE.

100 Years of History Celebrated at the Centennial Founders' Day

Founders' Day:

Counting down the minutes before the biggest celebration Southern Miss has ever seen, Jennifer Payne, who serves as special events coordinator, runs through her check list one last time to be sure everything is in place: "We [the Centennial Celebration Committee] want today to run as smoothly as possible and be an event for all to enjoy. We planned things that we agree students, faculty, alumni and Southern Miss fans can enjoy and look back on with fond memories."

Founder's Day 2010 marked the one hundredth anniversary of The University

of Southern Mississippi. University Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Joe Paul considers this day to be a "turning of the page," a day that "marks our progress for the past century and opens up a new window of opportunity for years to come."

President Martha Saunders, a Southern Miss alumna, was joined by several dignitaries on the stage in Bennett Auditorium for the closing convocation ceremony, which was followed by a campus-wide picnic on Weathersby Lawn as well as the human "100" photo that took place inside the Rock. Guests of the university

included Governor Haley Barbour; Lt. Governor Phil Bryant; State Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Hank Bounds; and Hattiesburg Mayor Dr. Johnny DuPree.

Dr. Chester Morgan, professor of history, gave an impassioned speech on Southern Miss and its rich legacy, including the original "Mississippi Normal College" narration in which Governor Barbour commented: "The University has become anything but normal. It's exceptional."

Southern Miss faculty and staff with multiple years of service to the university

were also recognized at the convocation, along with the charter members of the university's new Centennial Legacy Circle. Professor Emeritus William Scarborough, a southern history scholar, declared the event to be a "memorable and highly well organized event. It truly was a great day to be a Golden Eagle."

While months of preparation took place prior to the event, the moments most remember are those of spontaneity. Student Activities Manager Joel Hughes said his pride for Southern Miss was bolstered by



Dr. Joe Paul, Vice-President of Student Affairs, led the presentation of awards at Founders' Day. Included were this year's initiates into the Hall of Fame, as well as the winners of the Pi Kapa Phi Silver Bowl, the B-TUF award, and others.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Outgoing SGA President J. R. Robinson addressed the crowd at the opening ceremony, reflecting on his time in office and thanking those who helped make his year a successful one.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



As the former executive officers of the SGA step down, the new are sworn in. The 2010-2011 executive officers of the SGA include Treasurer Brett Haro, Elections Commissioner Kyle Nixon, Attorney General Vernon Smith, Vice-President Lance Logan, and President Kasey Mitchell.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

the turnout of students and fans during the afternoon activities: "The masses came out to help wish our beloved University a 'Happy Birthday' and that is what matters most. The best part was when everyone gathered together on the fifty yard line and started the 'Black! Gold!' cheer without instruction... that is what is at the heart of all Southern Miss affiliates—a love and appreciation like no other."

Porting everything from a vintage-style commemorative Coca Cola label with the university seal to live music in the new green

space, Founder's Day was a true marriage of old and new. "Mixing tradition and history with the modern and fresh is the best way to describe it," said senior Ken Busby, who was named an inductee of the Southern Miss Hall of Fame. The Mobile native argues that the best part of Founder's Day was the dedication of the newly constructed Centennial Gateway: "It is truly amazing to see the growth of Southern Miss. I've only been here four years and we've grown and expanded beyond my belief."

Following the theme of "A Treasured

Past, A Golden Future," the Centennial Celebration also included the induction of new Student Government Officers, as well as student awards and recognitions. Bentley Anderson, who received the Best Citizen award, said that his fondest memories will forever be connected to Southern Miss: "This place isn't just a university. Southern Miss has prepared me for the future. I am so honored to be the Best Citizen, especially on the 100th Anniversary of Southern Miss—it's a memory that will always be top on my list."

Founder's Day 2010 will forever be remembered as the stepping stone between the past century of growth and the future—one that many consider to be the "best one hundred years yet." While Southern Miss may have a century of history to look back on, it's the next century that Dr. Paul says will be the ones to watch: "Southern Miss is soaring higher and higher; our job is to keep the wind beneath her wings and watch her fly."

Story by Marie John



President Martha Saunders, in full academic regalia, marches along with the rest of the administration towards the Centennial Convocation.

Photo by Casey Clingan

The Centennial Time Capsule includes objects from SMAC, the Society of 1910, the Gilded Eagles, and other diverse student organizations. It will be buried for fifty years and unearthed at the 2060 Founders' Day.

Photo by Gillian Borden

Gathered dignitaries including Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour, President Emeritus Aubrey Lucas, President Saunders, and members of the Edward J. Langton family cut the ribbon on the Centennial Gateway.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Among other surprises, Coke revealed a special Centennial bottle celebrating the university. The bottles were on sale during Founders' Day.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Ashley Thrash twirls her Southern Miss flag with the rest of the Colorguard as the Pride guides the gathered crowd from Shoemaker Square into the Rock.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



This ice sculpture, on display in the Thad Cochran Center, featured the Centennial logo. Reminders of the Centennial were located across campus, from the mundane to the extravagant.

Photo by Casey Clingan



The Pride performed at the Founders' Day picnic, signalling the final activity of the day and leading the charge into the Rock.

Photo by Casey Clingan



Planning is critical: Mohamad Schuman, Director of the Pride, helps coordinate positions on the field of the Rock as students, faculty, alumni, and friends are lined up to form a human 100.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Top: The line into the Rock stretched from the edge of the field to the back of College Drive.

Photo by Samantha M. Light



Bottom: Those already on the field take a break from standing.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



20

30

40

50

Photo by Danny Rawles





CENTENNIAL GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

A YEAR OF RENEWAL

THE GATEWAY TO THE CENTENNIAL

Throughout this year, Southern Miss has gone through a period of physical rejuvenation with construction projects across the campus. Perhaps the most visible of these projects has been the construction of the Centennial Gateway, a structure intended to welcome students both new and old. The gateway was privately funded by generous donations and celebrates the university's hundred-year legacy.

Before construction began, students were treated to a preview of the final product in the form of a detailed banner. Despite

minor interruptions to the flow of traffic, the gateway project progressed rapidly over the course of the year.

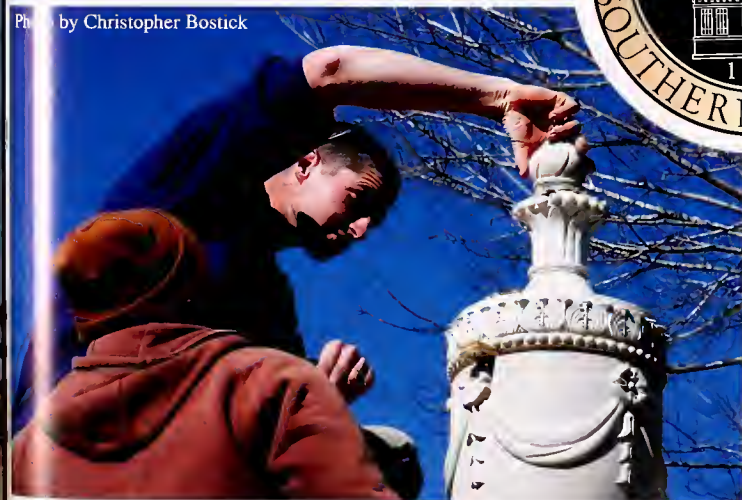
Below: Workers make final adjustments to one of the gateway's urns. These urns, a trademark of Southern Miss architecture, can be seen throughout the campus.

Right: The Centennial Gateway nears completion in late February.

Photo by Michael Swords



Photo by Christopher Bostuck



Workers begin another day of construction in early spring, moving to begin the process of roofing Century Park.
Photo by Michael Edwards



CENTURY PARK TAKES SHAPE

Last March, the university broke ground on a year-long project. Throughout the course of the year, the northern edge of campus has played host to one of the most visible signs of the university's centennial: Century Park. Constructed on the site of the old 4th Street parking lot, the collection of dormitories represents one of the largest construction projects ever undertaken by Southern Miss.

Once it opens in fall of 2010, Century Park will boast four four-story dorms with 864 beds. The project itself has been conducted with energy conservation and environmental responsibility as two of the foremost guiding principles.

By September, the dormitories had taken on more definite shape as work began on insulation.

Photo by Kayla Rutledge

A stairwell spirals out, the first visible sign of progress on Century Park. Each dormitory will include four floors.

Photo by Kayla Rutledge



Photo by Michael Swords





people



Mr. & Miss Southern Miss

All Photos by Samantha M. Light



ZOË BECKHAM



BRANDON DAVIS

PHI KAPPA PHI

SILVER BOWL

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The prestigious Phi Kappa Phi Silver Bowl is awarded to the senior who has the highest GPA and the most credit hours, regardless of major. This year's winner, Candice White, is a forensic science major.

WHITNEY BLACKLEY



BEST CITIZENS



BENTLEY ANDERSON

Hall of Fame

Chances are, you've met them. They're the ones that bleed black and gold, the ones who took Dr. Paul's edict to "leave Southern Miss better than you found it" as not just a challenge, but a lifestyle. They have left Southern Miss forever marked by their passage. They're stars: sometimes bright and other times quiet, but no matter their method,

Southern Miss will never be quite the same for having played host to them. They're not just Who's Who; they're famous, infamous, the sort of people who will be the subject of stories for years to come. This year, it is a pleasure to induct nine more worthy members into the Hall of Fame, and chances are, you've met them.

STUART

Chemist, musician, blogger:

LOVINGGOOD



President and stoic letter:
J.R. ROBINSON



SAMONE

Hometown girl and McNair scholar:
FAULKNER



ZOE

BECKHAM

Literary critic, attorney general, dedicated Chi O.



KEN BUSBY

The nicest molecular biologist you'll ever meet.



ELIZABETH MALOY

The artist, designer, and editor.



The biologist from abroad:

JENNIFER LAMB



JAYSON NEWELL

Sigma Chi brother and political scientist.



SARAH ALI

The biochemist of Southern Style.

Who's Who



Stacy Ahua is a Luckyday Scholar and member of the Student Government Association. She has served on the executive committee for Golden Eagle Welcome Week and was a member of

Southern Style 2008. Stacy is a Speech Communication major from Hattiesburg and is the daughter of Mary and Emmanuel Ahua. She plans to further her education by attending law school.



Gulfport native Alicia Augustine is a nursing major and the daughter of Terry and Felicia Augustine. She is a Luckyday Scholar and a College of Health Ambassador. Alicia serves as president of

her nursing class and is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated. After graduation, she plans to work as a floor nurse at hospital until returning to graduate school to become a nurse practitioner/educator.



Sarah Ali is a Hattiesburg native and the daughter of Adel Ali and Ebtesam El-Haddary. She is a member of the Honors College and served as the student body maid for Homecoming in

2009. Sarah is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and serves as chapter president. After completing her degree in biochemistry, Sarah plans to pursue a master's degree in public health.



Taylor Bailey is a Leadership Scholar from Hammond, Louisiana. The nursing major is the daughter of Peggy and Richard Bailey. Taylor is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority

and the Catholic Student Association. She also served as a member of Southern Style in 2008. After graduation, Taylor hopes to pursue a career as a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant.



Bentley Anderson is a history and political science double major from Hattiesburg. He is a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity and served as president of the IFC. Since

graduating, Bentley has been serving as a senior page for the Mississippi Senate. He plans to pursue a career in political strategy before running for the legislature himself. Bentley is the son of Rose and Robert Anderson.



Zoe Beckham is an English major and an Honors College scholar. Zoe has served as president of Chi Omega sorority, Attorney General of the Student Government Association, a member

of Southern Style 2009, an Honors College Ambassador, and Miss Southern Miss 2009. A native of Mandeville, Zoe is the daughter of Rusty Beckham and Sabrina Foshee and is the second of five fantastic siblings.



Paul Apyan, a native of Hixson, Tennessee, is the son of David and Laura Apyan. The business administration and personal financial planning double major serves as captain of the varsity golf team.

Paul was selected as the 2008-2009 Southern male athlete of the year and was also a Cleveland Golf/Srixon All-American Scholar. Paul hopes to have a career as a professional golfer on the PGA Tour.



Whitney Blakely is a computer science major from South Mississippi. She served as a member of Southern Style in 2009 and was the president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. Whitney

is also a member of Eagle Connection and a volunteer at PACE Head Start. After graduation, she plans on teaching math and technology classes at the high school level. Whitney is the daughter of Ressie Blakely.



Ken Busby, a molecular biology major from Mobile, is part of the Student Government Association, Southern Style 2008, Men of Excellence, Eagle Connection, and the Honor's College. Ken

served as president of Lambda Sigma Honor Society, Associate Editor for the Catalyst research magazine, and Executive Director of Campus Development. He plans to pursue a career in medicine.



Public relations major and Hattiesburg native Samone Faulkner is the daughter of Wanda Faulkner and Joseph Faulkner. She is a Luckyday and McNair Scholar, and volunteered with the

Salvation Army as volunteer of the year in 2009. Samone is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and has served as chapter president since 2008. She plans on pursuing a master's degree this fall.



Theatre and French double major William Hatten is the son of Juanita Hatten of Mobile. He is both a Vice-Presidential and Leadership Scholar and member of the Honors College. William is a

member of Alpha Psi Omega theatre honors fraternity. He worked for the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey during summer 2009 as a directing intern. William plans to work professionally as a theatre director.



History major Bridgette Davis is the daughter of Julie Strahan of Oak Grove. She is Chi Omega's Recruitment Chair and a member of Student Government Association. Her

honors include the President's List, Dean's List, and Golden Key Honor Society. She is a volunteer for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Habitat for Humanity. Bridgette plans to attend law school, specializing in corporate law.



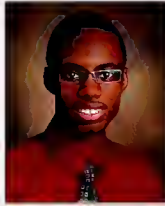
Elliott Freeman is an English major from Long Beach, Mississippi and is the son of Claudia and Marty Freeman. He served as the president of Sigma Tau Delta English honors society

and is a member of the Honors College. Elliott has been a member of the Southerner yearbook staff throughout college, serving as Executive Editor this year. He plans to pursue a master's degree in creative writing.



Cushanta Horton is a Luckyday Scholar from Meridian, Mississippi and is the daughter of Sandra Thompson. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Incorporated and

served as president of the Afro-American Student Organization. Cushanta is a forensic science and biology major and hopes to attend graduate school in epidemiology after graduation.



Chemistry major Marauo Davis is a McNair Scholar and an Oseola McCarty Foundation Scholar. Marauo is a member of the American Chemical Society and serves as a Resident

Assistant. The Waynesboro, Mississippi native plans on obtaining a PhD in inorganic/organometallic chemistry and hopes to work in the pharmaceutical industry.



Marketing major Avery Fulp is the son of Florida Williams of Summit, Mississippi. He is a member of the Track and Field team and the Army ROTC. Avery is a member of Men of Excellence and

served on Southern Style 2009. Avery has also logged over 300 volunteer hours at the Boys and Girls Club. He plans to join the U.S. Army after graduation.



Nathaniel Jones is the son of Shelley and Michael Jones of Tupelo, Mississippi. He is a biology major and a Luckyday Scholar. Nathaniel is a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity,

Southern Style 2009, and serves as a Luckyday Mentor. After completing his degree, he hopes to obtain a master's of medical science degree before entering medical school.



Jessica DeJean is the daughter of Tana and Raymond DeJean of Mandeville, Louisiana. She is a member of the Honors College and Delta Delta Delta sorority, serving as Vice-President of

Finance. Jessica is a biological science major and plans to obtain a master's degree in marine biology.



Jeffrey Guillot is a double major in history and foreign languages from New Orleans, Louisiana. He is the son of Glenn and Stephanie Guillot. Jeffrey is a member of Kappa Alpha Order

fraternity and serves as a peer tutor for Student Support Services. He is a member of the Honors College and plans to attend graduate school in pursuit of a PhD in modern European history.



International studies major Ashleigh Kellogg is the daughter of Lorie and Thomas Kellogg of Franklin, Tennessee. She is a member of Chi Omega sorority and served on the College

Panhellenic Council as the Vice-President of Administrative Affairs. She hopes to attend law school after graduation. Ashleigh would like to work in international law for the United Nations.

Tiffany Kersten, a Hattiesburg native, is a sports management major and a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and Gamma Beta Phi. She has volunteered for the American Heart Walk and the American Cancer Society. Tiffany is the daughter of Keith Kersten and hopes to obtain a managerial position after graduation.



Kierstan Knaus is a marketing major from Kevil, Kentucky. She is the daughter of Joy and Stan Knaus. Kierstan is Vice-President of Communications for Delta Gamma sorority and is president of Eagle Connection. She was selected as the University's most outstanding student organization officer for her work with Delta Gamma. Kierstan plans to pursue her MBA after graduation.



Jennifer Lamb is an environmental biology major from Brandon, Mississippi and the daughter of Brian and Laura Lamb. She is a member of Beta Beta Beta biological honors society and the Honors College. Jennifer is a research assistant in the biology department and is the founder of the Conservation Outreach Program. She hopes to study the ecology of amphibians as a university professor.



A native of Metairie, Stuart Lovinggood is an American Chemical Society certified Chemistry major. Stuart is a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and the Honors College. He served as a member of Eagle Connection and as a tour guide in the Office of Admissions. He is the son of Robert and George Ann Lovinggood and plans to obtain a degree in architectural or civil engineering.



Art major Elizabeth Maloy is the daughter of Joni and Bill Maloy of Long Beach, Mississippi. Lizzie has studied abroad in both France and Italy. She is a member of the Honors College and a Presidential Scholar. Lizzie has won numerous ADDY awards for her graphic designs and served as Executive Editor of The Southerner in 2009. She plans to attend the University of Texas in the fall.



Emily Maurer of Franklin, Tennessee is a fashion merchandising major and the daughter of Tonya and Steve Maurer. She is a member of Phi Mu sorority and served as its president, leading the chapter in receiving the national Philomathian Society Award. She also served as president of the Order of Omega. Emily hopes to work in design and marketing.



Reese May is a political science major from Mendenhall, Mississippi and is the son of Annette Hopkins and Jeff May. He served two tours in Iraq as a member of the Marine Corps during his undergraduate career. Reese has served as president of Sigma Chi fraternity and the attorney general of the Student Government Association. Reese plans to pursue a PhD in political theory.



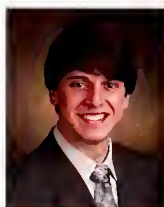
Kayla McLain of Covington, Louisiana is a nursing major and the daughter of Keith and Cindy McLain. She is a member of Chi Omega sorority where she served as New Member Educator. Kayla was a member of Southern Style 2008, and is a Leadership Scholar. Kayla plans to attend graduate school to become a women's health nurse practitioner.



Dance performance and choreography major Kellis McSparrin is from Clinton, Mississippi. She is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and Chi Tau Epsilon dance fraternity. Kellis is also active in the International Studies Program. After graduation, she plans to pursue a graduate degree in dance in New York City. Kellis is the daughter of T.J. and Mike McSparrin.



Samuel Muller is the son of Charlaine and Herbert Muller of Lacombe, Louisiana. A biology major, he plans to attend physical therapy school at Louisiana State University. Samuel is a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and served as associate editor of Catalyst. He also participated in Gear Up Florida, an 800 mile bike that raises awareness and funding for people with disabilities.



Jayson Newell is a native of Ridgeland, Mississippi and a political science major. While at Southern Miss, he has served as both Vice President and Attorney General of the Student Government Association. Jayson is also a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and Southern Style. He is the son of Judy and Joseph Newell and plans to pursue a career in politics.



Efosa Ogiamen is a biology major from Clinton, Mississippi. He is a member of Lambda Alpha Psi fraternity, Incorporated., serving as treasurer, vice president, president. Efosa was Vice President of the National Pan-Hellenic Council in 2009. The son of Teddy Ogiamen, Efosa plans to attend medical school this fall wants to open a practice in an under-privileged area.



Justin Patterson is a Leadership Scholar from Mobile. He is the co-founder and president of one the bass fishing club. Justin was also a member of Southern Style and served

on the GEWW Executive Council. A mathematics licensure major and the son of John Patterson, Justin plans to pursue a career as a high school math teacher and coach.



Omari Pittman is an exercise science major from Jackson, Mississippi. He is the son of Carmen Moncure. Omari is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. and

served as the Student Government Association Election Commissioner. Omari was chosen as Mr. Southern Miss in 2009. After graduation, he plans to attend medical school.



Accounting major Christie Reynolds is the daughter of Natasha and Kin Reynolds of Prattville, Alabama. She is a member of the Honors College, the Wesley Foundation, and Chi

Omega sorority. Christie served as a mentor for Spanish-speaking exchange students and plans to travel abroad. She will sit for her CPA exam in May and would like to work in a foreign country.



J.R. Robinson is the son of Willie and Vickie Robinson of Bolton, Mississippi. J.R. served as president of the Student Government Association in 2009. He is a member of the

Afro-American Student Organization and Men of Excellence. J.R. is an administration of justice major and plans to attend law school and pursue a career in public service.



Kelley Rooney is a political science major from Fair Oaks, California and is the daughter of Teresa and Thomas Rooney. Kelley is a member of the Southern Miss Cross Country and

Track and Field teams and has been a Scholar Athlete since fall 2007. She also serves as president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Chair of College Republicans. During her



Katie Ross is a native of Vicksburg, Mississippi and a political science major. The Luckyday Scholar is the daughter of Mickey and James Ross. Katie has served as Treasurer and Vice President of Chi

Omega sorority. She served as the director of Homecoming in 2009 for the Student Government Association and plans to attend law school after graduation.



Emily Stechmann is a speech-language pathology major from Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. She is a Lucyday Scholar and a member of Chi Omega sorority. Emily served as

copy editor for the Catalyst and was a member of Southern Style in 2009. She is the daughter of William Stechmann and plans to attend graduate school in speech-language pathology.



Jefferson, Louisiana native Kimberly Valvis is the daughter of Gail and Manuel Valvis. She is an elementary and special education double major. Kimberly was a member of Southern Style in 2008

and is a member of Delta Gamma sorority. She plans on attending graduate school to eventually obtain a PhD in special education with a concentration on Autism Spectrum Disorders.



April VanCleve is a communication studies major from Poplarville, Mississippi and the daughter of Sara Hill. She is a Luckyday Scholar and a mentor in the speaking center. Sara is

completing an internship with the Forrest General Hospital marketing department. She plans to attend graduate school in communication studies or public health.



Lauren Waldrop is the daughter of Donna and Joey Thornton of Brandon, Mississippi. She is a business technology major and is a Luckyday Scholar. Lauren is a member of Delta Gamma

sorority and is the president of Phi Beta Lambda honor society. After graduation, she plans to pursue a master's degree in instructional technology.



Madison Walker is a native of Pensacola, Florida and is the daughter of Betsy and Harry Walker. She is a marine biology major and a member of the Honors College. Madison is a biology

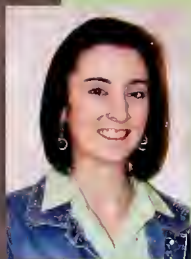
laboratory teaching assistant, a member of the Society of Physics Students and the Women's Disc Golf Association. She plans to pursue a PhD and work as a research scientist and professor.



Public relations major Melissa Weinberger is the daughter of Judith and Ronald Weinberger of Waldorf, Maryland. She is a member of Kappa Delta sorority, Southern Style,

and the College Panhellenic Council, serving as Vice-President of Educational Programming. After graduation, she plans to become a public relations consultant in the tourism industry.

Gulf Coast - Who's Who



Kaycee Ann Benefield

is a marketing major from Saucier, Mississippi. She was an honors graduate from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in 2008 and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Kaycee is an active member of Michael Memorial Church where she serves as leader of the AWANA children's group and Assistant Director of the children's choir. After graduation, Kaycee plans to pursue a career in marketing research.



Hollis Jo Ann Burkett

is a doctoral student studying human capital development. Her hometown of Davis, California, Hollis serves as an adjunct faculty member at California State University-Sacramento. She has been published in numerous professional journals and has served as a presenter for international conferences in training, development and human resources.



Shanna Lynn Burdine

is an elementary education major and a member of Golden Key International Honor Society and the Future Educators of America. The Saucier native also served as a member of the DeSoto Ranger District Clean-Up team for three years. While pursuing a career in education, Shanna hopes to encourage students through hands-on learning and community involvement.



Jay William Dieterich

is a master's student studying marine and estuarine science. He is the treasurer of the Marine and Estuarine Graduate Student Association and works as a graduate assistant at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. Jay is also a member of the American Fisheries Society, American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, and the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation. He is from Turnersville, New Jersey.

WELCOME TO THE
Friendship Oak

I AM 500 YEARS OLD
AND I SURVIVED HURRICANE KATRINA.
PLEASE, DO NOT CLIMB ON MY LIMBS.

Wendy Joanne Griffioen

is a geography major from Long Beach, Mississippi. She is a founding member of Southern Miss Gulf Coast Campus chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon geography honor society. She is also a member of the American Association of Geographers. Wendy graduated Summa Cum Laude in December 2009 and plans on pursuing a master's degree in geography or logistics.



Julianne Davis

is a psychology major from Gulport, Mississippi. She is a member of the Marriage and Family Student Organization and serves as the secretary of Psi Chi psychology honor society. Julianne is also a mentor for the Connections Club. She plans to pursue a graduate degree in child psychology.



Kristin Lizana

is a nursing major from Pass Christian, Mississippi. She is a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and serves as a CCD teacher. Kristin has volunteered with the March of Dimes and American Heart Walk. After graduation, she plans to work at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport before returning to school to pursue a masters of nursing.

Micah Harris

is a business administration major from Gautier, Mississippi. He is a member of the honors college and received the 2009 Southern Miss African American Student Organization Award of Excellence. Micah plans on pursuing a career as a human resource management specialist.



Courtney Kennedy

is an elementary education major and a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society and is a William Winter Scholar. She served as a reading tutor for students at West Elementary and is a member of Mississippi Professional Educators Association. After graduation, the Biloxi native plans to teach on the Gulf Coast and, eventually, pursue a graduate degree in school counseling.



Jillian Owens

is a nursing major and a native of Addison, New York. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau international honor society. Jillian received the Dr. Jerry Muehlberger Medical Management Award in 2006 for her excellence in helping Tricare patients obtain obstetrics care after Kessler Air Force base closed due to Hurricane Katrina.

John Hays

is a PhD candidate from Longboat Key, Florida. At age 71, and after receiving degrees in both law and international relations, he is pursuing a degree in International Development. Although he is already retired from his law career, he saw the opportunity to return to the classroom as a chance to interact with others and use his time to study and learn more about the world around him.



John Kmiec, Jr.

is a PhD candidate in human capital development and a native of Biloxi, . He is co-chair of the Graduate Student Council and a member of the American Society for Training and Development Mississippi Chapter, serving on the chapter executive board. He is a 27-year veteran of the United States Air Force. John and his wife Dawn are the proud parents of three children: Gabriel, Melissa and Heather.



Jordyn Stefano

is an elementary education major from Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. She is a member of both Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key honor societies. Jordyn is a William Winter scholar and was selected as the most outstanding junior in the elementary education department last year. After graduation, she plans on teaching before pursuing a master's degree in school counseling.

Most Outstanding Freshmen



Mercedes Le is a speech-language pathology major from Tupelo, Mississippi. She is a member of Freshman Associates, serving as secretary. Mercedes is a Luckyday Scholar and was elected president of the Luckyday Freshmen Council. She describes her freshman year as "amazing" and attributes her success to the "family of friends and Southern Miss staff whom I can always rely on for help." Mercedes is the daughter of Phuong and Vinh Le.

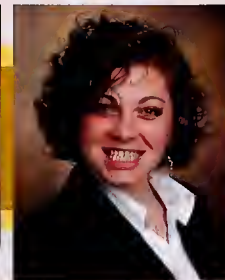
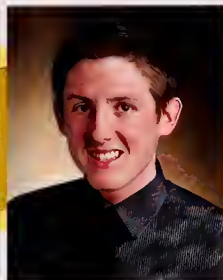


Davontae Washington is the son of Pearlina Martin of New Augusta, Mississippi. He is a marketing major and member of Freshman Associates and The Legacy. Davontae is president of the Southern Miss chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions, which he helped to re-charter after the loss of Southern Miss classmates in the early fall. He also serves as the president of the Rho pledge class of Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity.

JACOB HICKSON Jacob Hickson is a nursing major from Ellisville, Mississippi. He is a member of The Legacy and Habitat for Humanity. Jacob is a Luckyday Scholar and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta honor society. He is also a member of the Gay-Straight Alliance, serving on the social committee leader and Day of Silence organizer. Jacob is the son of Tricia and Carson Graham.

KRISTA MOYLAN Management major Krista Moylan is the daughter of Sharon and Kevin Moylan of Palos Park, Illinois. She is a member of both the varsity cross country and track and field teams. Krista is a Presidential Scholar and member of the Honors College. An active member of College Republicans, Krista enjoyed participating in a voter registration drive during the presidential election.

KARA MOYLAN For Kara Moylan, being outstanding is in the family. Like twin sister Krista, Kara is a Presidential Scholar and member of the Honors College. She is a member of the varsity cross country and track and field teams. She helped the Student Athlete Advisory Committee plan a coin drive for Homes of Hope. Kara is the daughter of Kevin and Sharon Moylan of Palos Park, Illinois.



Zachary Butler is the son of Jennifer and Charles Moses of Mobile, Alabama. He is a mathematics major and serves as a peer tutor in the Math Zone. Zach is a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, serving as the Alumni Relations Chair, Assistant Parliamentarian and Member Education Chairman. He is also a member of the Southern Miss Activities Council and is a designer for The Southerner yearbook.

ZACHARY BUTLER

Accounting major Cully Leist is a Luckyday Scholar from Vicksburg, Mississippi. He is a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and serves as social chair. Cully is also a member of the Concert Choir, Freshman Associates, and the Southern Miss Activities Council. He is the son of Rebecca Shaw and Jack Leist.

CULLY LEIST

Allie Solomon is the daughter of Dr. Neil Solomon and Cindy Zeone of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is a member of the Honors College and is a Presidential Scholar. Allie serves as co-captain of the ultimate Frisbee club team and is a member of the Afro-American Student Organization. As a member of Freshman Associates, Allie serves on the outreach focus group and t-shirt design committees.

ALLIE SOLOMON

Outstanding Freshmen

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

looking back on a year of service

Rushing before class or strolling by afterward, students stop by the various polls across campus during the spring elections for the next year's Student Government Association officers. With the election of new officers underway, the days of the current officers are numbered. Looking back with pride, the 2009-2010 SGA Executive Council reminisce on the efforts that were accomplished and the joy that fulfilling their position's duties brought to their lives.

Feeling a sense of accomplishment from his term as SGA President, J.R. Robinson, a senior criminal justice major from Bolton, Mississippi, looks back on his term with no regrets. "From my term as SGA President, I feel I've gotten a stronger sense of leadership along with a better understanding of how to serve others. During the past year, I worked diligently to enact numerous programs to better student life including the Early Alert retention program to help keep students at

Southern Miss, an after-hours exam study location in the Powerhouse after the library closes, and the bike storage program to keep bikes from rusting and being stolen over breaks during the semester. I have truly enjoyed every single minute of my term: the good, the bad, and everything in between."

A large part of SGA centers on the community it forms between students, bridging the gap between social lines with each student having a single governing body. "Through my position, I worked to let students know where the funds of SGA are going in order for them to feel a sense of ownership



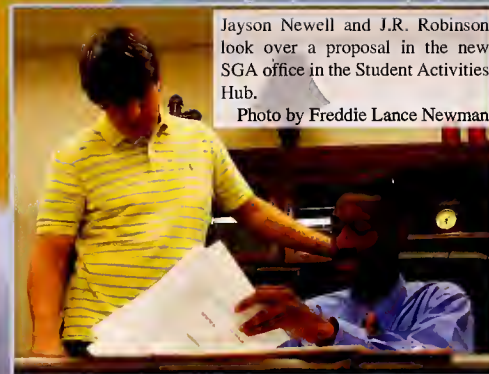
Jayson Newell takes a moment to talk to a student following the SGA Debates. Debates allow the new candidates to express their plans for the following year.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Photo by Freddie Lance Newman

with the council,” said SGA Treasurer Jessica Hughes, a senior business technology education major from Jackson. “One of the biggest rewards that I have received from being treasurer is the list of numerous connections that I have made with both the student body and the Executive Council. Something I hope that students have begun to realize is just how important their voice is in SGA because we are here to serve the students and reatly welcome any in ut.”



Jayson Newell and J.R. Robinson look over a proposal in the new SGA office in the Student Activities Hub.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



SGA Elections Commissioner Chris Arguedas addresses the audience at the start of the SGA 2010 Debate.

Photo by Christopher Bostick

As Elections Commissioner, senior Chris Arguedas, a speech communication major from Madison, has had the opportunity to work with many dedicated individuals who form the core of SGA.

“From my position, I have really been able to see the differences among student leaders. I have learned how each leader has their strengths in different areas and how some will provide so much of themselves in order for the process to work successfully. It is from these hard working individuals and the efforts of the Executive Council that voter turnout has risen to the heights it has this year. At the end of the day, it shows just how effective a little hard work can be along with being able to enjoy yourself at the same time—an extremely important aspect of the process due to the stressful nature of the job.”

Through his term in office, SGA Vice President Jayson Newell, a senior political science major from Ridgeland, realized that the key to unlocking the potential of his position was a driven mindset. “The senate worked on a lot of internal management this year,” said Newell. “We worked on rewriting the SGA Constitution along with senate by-laws. This was a rebuilding year, which has paved the road for years to come.”

Jayson also commented: “I have learned the deep level of commitment needed for to do this job to its greatest potential. True persistence will guide any SGA officer or simply leader in general to greatness, always keeping the fire burning and never giving up.”

Story by John Barr

INSIDE THE DOME

Behind the Scenes of Southern Miss

Being a first generation college student, my first few days on Southern Miss's campus were a whirlwind of confusion. At least until I met Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Joe Paul.

Confused as I was, I remembered that my Preview tour guide had said something about an open door policy inside the Administration Building, where students can go and ask for help or advice. I had no clue where the Business Services office was, so I decided to try my luck inside the Dome, where I met none other than Dr. Joe Paul. He instantly made me feel welcome and actually walked with me to Forrest County Hall, answering my questions and concerns the whole way.

While Dr. Paul does hold an intriguing reputation for knowing everyone's name, he admits that this is just "nice people giving me more credit than I deserve." Students all over campus will argue otherwise, though: junior Andie Szabo contends, "Dr. Paul is famous for knowing the students here at Southern Miss. That is why we love him."

While Dr. Paul is primarily responsible for being the final authority on activities, programs, and services that enhance the quality of life of the University community, his job does

contain some tasks that, according to him: "...weren't in the brochure, but I get the chance to be in the know of all the exciting things that are happening here at Southern Miss."

Many of these happenings include the construction of a new parking garage, the rise of new green spaces across campus, and the Century Park resident community. "Southern Miss is growing everyday, and I'm so thrilled to be a part of it," says Dr. Paul, spending a moment at his self proclaimed favorite spot on campus: the courtyard across from Cook Library. "Interacting and seeing the students who make up the feel of Southern Miss is the most important aspect of my job...it's always one of the most fun."

While Dr. Paul does have an office open for meetings with everyone from students to prominent alumni, he confesses that he deserts his Dome location for a more scenic view of campus. "I started Southern Miss as a freshmen, and I've love every aspect of since; that's why I never left."

While the elusive rumor about Dr. Paul may not be fully accurate, he does comment that, "If I didn't know you when I got up this morning, I want to make a point to know you before I go to bed. Personal communication is key

to success. I hope that at some point throughout every students school career, I have helped in some way."

So while I was lost that first day of freshmen year, Dr. Paul lived up to his reputation of helpfulness and friendliness, and I have yet to ask a question he did not have an answer to or know how to find it.

Just across the circular foyer from Dr. Joe Paul, one finds a mixture of historical style and futuristic ideas. The history lies within the décor, depicting one hundred years of growth. The futuristic ideas are found in Dr. Martha Saunders herself, who is leading Southern Miss to becoming the premier research facility in the Gulf South. Serving in her second year, Dr. Saunders is "utilizing innovative ideas and putting them to work."

As the first female president of Southern Miss, Dr. Saunders is commonly found wearing her favorite colors: black and gold. "Southern Miss has given so much to me, and I want to be sure I give even more back to it. My goal is to have students actively involved in their education, enjoying the atmosphere on campus, and becoming successful members of the community with accredited and prestigious degrees."

When asked of her favorite area of campus, she narrows the choices

down to a tie: "The front, historical area is campus is beautiful, yet the area around the Liberal Arts Building and the International Center is where Southern Miss goes beyond our actual borders -imaginative growth and international education are found there."

As the Centennial Celebration draws nearer by the day, Dr. Saunders is thrilled at the progress of Southern Miss over the past 100 years. "I'm so excited about this new chapter that is opening for Southern Miss-yes I am in a leadership position, but the less recognized innovators and people who dedicated their time and energy to furthering Southern Miss are the ones who I wish to recognize and compliment."

Whether you find Dr. Saunders behind her oak desk, handling the day to day aspects as the chief executive officer and principal educational officer, or out and about the community, working diligently to promote Southern Miss and all it can do for students, she is sure to have home of the Golden Eagles in her heart. "Southern Miss has made it to the top-let's push beyond our limits and set the new bar for other universities to try and meet."

Story by Marie Johnson
Photo by Gillian Borden



Dr. Joe Paul is one of the most well-known members of the administration, and often the first that new and potential students meet. His office is frequented by all sorts of students, new and old.

Photo by Christopher Bostick



Dr. Martha Saunders has been a driving force behind the renovation going on across the campus, including both physical construction and a renewed sense of community.

Photo by Erin Wojtala

Barbara Ross

SOUTHERN MISS DEDICATION AT ITS HIGHEST

Serving as the Director of Union and Programs may seem like a typical desk job, but to Barbara Ross: "It's a new adventure each and every day." Currently serving in her fortieth year as a respected and greatly appreciated member of Southern Miss' staff, Barbara is known as a fountain of knowledge about all things pertaining to Southern Miss.

"I've been the director since 1989, and no two days are alike," says Barbara, who graduated from Southern Miss in 1967 with a degree in recreation and sociology.

Melissa Carpenter, who serves as the secretary to the newly opened Student Activities Hub deems Ross a "guardian angel who keeps a positive attitude and pushes us to do better."

Starting out as the Associate Dean for Women, Ross moved on to oversee the Greek Life Office before ultimately settling down in her current position. "I started out at Southern Miss and just never left...it's a dedication that has never ceased to amaze me."

After being named the Mississippi Educational Administrator of the Year in 2004, Ross has worked diligently to improve her alma mater. She created the Office of Community Service Learning, which is a command center

for student volunteers and faculty providing assistance with service-learning initiatives. Still continuing to fill in wherever she is needed, Ross is chairing or serving on over thirty eight Southern Miss committees and she manages to find time to mentor freshmen. "I like to stay busy—it's how you get things done."

An aspect many students find interesting about Barbara is her strong connections with many of Southern Miss' secret societies. "While I can't comment on my exact involvement, it can be known that I'm willing to help out anyone or am interested in raising the caliber here at Southern Miss." While she claims no attachment to any group, Barbara is respected for her ability to promote growth and development.

"Being stagnant is the worst way to live. You have to keep moving forward to succeed—you've got to get out there and make a difference. Southern Miss is giving so much to me so I'm just giving back."

Story by Melissa Carpenter
Photo by Samantha Ross

Jennifer Duke Payne has a big job on her hands: throwing the party of the century—literally. Armed with a committee of over fifty faculty, staff, and students, Jennifer Payne is planning the biggest birthday celebration Hattiesburg has ever seen: the Centennial Celebration for Southern Miss.

"The Centennial is a culmination of events throughout the year to help ring in a century of excellence and jump start the next one hundred years."

Jennifer, a Southern Miss alumna with a degree in speech communications, was appointed by President Martha Saunders to serve as the Centennial Coordinator in late 2008. "I'm pleased with the amount of support we've received from so many who want to help celebrate Southern Miss's past legacy. Organizing the yearlong celebration has proved difficult, but enjoyable nonetheless."

The Centennial Committee is broken into five sub-committees that focus on five areas of interest throughout the year: academics, arts, athletics, Founders' Day, and history and

education. "The idea behind the celebration is to bring together not only alumni and current students, but to also involve the entire Hattiesburg community," said Payne, whose most recent Centennial events included the grand opening of the Centennial Exhibit, a display of 100 years of Southern Miss memorabilia that tells the Southern Miss story in an interesting and interactive way, to the near completion of the privately funding Centennial Gateway, a brick entrance located at the front of campus.

"Another big project includes the Centennial Endowed Scholarship Campaign, which will provide financial aid to students in need," Payne said. "This year is all giving back to Southern Miss what it has given to us."

Culminating with the Centennial Celebration Day in combination with Founder's Day on March 30th, current Southern Miss affiliates will reminisce on the legacy that is the past century and focus on propelling that success for another hundred years to come.

Story by Marie John

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



Jennifer Payne

PLANNING THE PARTY OF THE CENTURY

FOOTBALL ROUND TABLE

talking shop with the old and the new



Freshman running back Tracy Lampley saw most of his playing time in the form of kickoff and punt returns, but is considered by many to be the next Damion Fletcher.

Photo by Jordan Moore



This photo, thought to be at the time of a football game against University of Mississippi, features legendary punter Ray Guy.

Photo Submitted by McCain Archives

It would be hard to argue that there is any sport at Southern Miss that has ever reached the popularity of Golden Eagle football. Truthfully, there may be no other university activity in general that has ever had much fanfare. Southern Miss football had humble beginnings; the first game was October 13, 1912 against the Hattiesburg Boy Scouts. We won thirty to nothing. In the following year, the Golden Eagles dropped a game to Poplarville High School.

We have come a long way since then: from winning two college division national championships in 1958 and 1961 and ending Bear Bryant's home game win streak in 1982 to upsetting number six ranked Florida State in Tallahassee—Southern Miss football was built on being an underdog and rising to the occasion.

"I chose Southern Miss because of the vision that the President and Athletic director were telling me about what they had in store for the future. I was raised from a family of builders so I knew about building something from the ground up. You have to lay a solid foundation before you can start building the walls and the framing," says Southern Miss Alumni and All American Ray Guy, who is living history for players like Brown.

Ray Guy's #44 jersey number was the

LE

the new

first to be retired in the seventy-eight year history of Southern Miss. Playing as a standout defensive back and punter from 1970-72, he was a first-round selection (2nd overall pick) in the 1973 NFL drafted by the Oakland Raiders. Guy went on to play 13 seasons with the Raiders and is regarded as the finest punter in the history of professional football.

"Watching idols like Adalius Thomas," said sophomore wide receiver DeAndre Brown, "built up a determination to follow in their footsteps."

Even young players like Brown and Lampley have such respect for the history of the team. A large part of this could be due to former players like Reggie Collier, Ray Guy, and Adalius Thomas coming back to watch or work with the team.

"It's phenomenal," said Lampley. "Any skills or words of wisdom they pass on are taken to heart and are never taken for granted." Even current players have been there to guide the young running back. "Jamion Fletcher has been like a mentor to me."

Brown shared similar sentiments with his offensive teammate. "It's humbling to see that their mindset hasn't changed since they left the Rock. Their wisdom helps us

to grow not only as players, but as people as well."

Brown has also received some coaching and praise from a legendary Southern Miss player Brett Farve: "I've had several conversations with him and fully appreciate the time he spent with us. He is the kind of person that is just admirable both on and off the field."

"We were always underdogs where ever we or whoever we play back in those days. All the teams we played were always nationally rank and were usually in the SEC. We pretty much had to play teams that had open dates in their schedule because we were an Independent team that had no choice but to go and play bigger and better schools than ours," says Guy, who remains the only punter to ever be drafted in the first round.

"Each player that has come and gone through the doors of the locker room has shown the great pride and poise that has been handed down through history of former athletes who have worn the Black and Gold," says Guy, who takes great delight in calling Southern Miss his alma mater.

Here's to even more memorable seasons in the next centennial of Southern Miss.

Story by Alan Wheat



Wide receiver DeAndre Brown is one of Southern Miss' most dominant players. At 6'6", Brown is noticed both on and off the field not only for his size, but for his skills.

Photo by Sebe Dale IV

Seymour

THE GOLDEN EAGLE



During an outdoor football game for Southern Miss football, one might not only see birds above, but also one dancing alongside throughout the stands and across the field. This bird is not any bird. It is Seymour, the nationally renowned Southern Miss Golden Eagle mascot.

Seymour frequents not only football games but also other Golden Eagle sporting events such as Lady

Eagle Soccer, Lady Eagle Volleyball, Lady Eagle Basketball games, and Golden Eagle Basketball games. One can also find Seymour across campus and throughout Hattiesburg supporting Southern Miss. "This year I got to take pictures of Seymour with kids at Lighting the Way for the Holidays; it was a lot of fun to see how excited all the kids got when they interacted with Seymour," says Stuart Lovinggood, an A.C.S. Chemistry major from Metairie, La. Seymour is always showing school pride and showcasing Southern Miss' traditional black and gold.

Two or three people, who all share the enthusiasm and spirit of Southern

Miss, often wear the Golden Eagle costume. These students must fulfill various requirements to be accepted for this honor.

The new idea of a Golden Eagle as the mascot of The University of Southern Mississippi started in 1972, from alumni, faculty, students, and staff members. Since then the mascot came to be known as Seymour d'Campus, or Seymour as most people refer to him as. This name was inspired by Seymour d'Fair, the 1984 World's Fair mascot. To represent the mascot on campus, there was for a time a live Golden Eagle on campus. The first live mascot, from 1980 to 1986, was named Nugget. There was another live

eagle from 1986 to 1992.

Now Seymour captures the spirit as he does all he can to support Southern Miss. Whether in national competitions for university mascot or university sporting events, Seymour is an irreplaceable part of the Southern Miss community. As Katherine Lingenfelter, a senior speech communication major from Biloxi, captured, "Seymour represents the heart and spirit of Southern Miss."

Story by Yvette Barr
Photos by Casey Clingan
or from McCain Archives



Though his body and clothing style may have changed over the years, Seymour's enthusiasm, his friendly nature, and his all-around Southern Miss spirit truly represent what it means to attend the University of Southern Mississippi.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman



JOURNEY TO HAITI

Through the Camera's Lens

On January 12, 2010 one of the most destructive natural disasters of modern times struck one of the most impoverished nations of our time. Measuring 7 on the Rector Scale, a massive earthquake destroyed most of Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, and took more than 200,000 lives. Many students participated in various fundraisers for Haiti, but the disaster seemed so far away. Senior photojournalism majors David Jackson and Eli Baylis wanted a more active role in helping Haiti.

"Along with a little pressure from one of my professors, I was very concerned with such a huge disaster happening so close to home. I saw a chance to work and help in a country that needed help desperately. I also saw it as a great learning experience; one that no class could give me," said David.

After failed attempts to get on relief flights to Port-au-Prince, David and Eli boarded a plane to the Dominican Republic. They then took a 9-hour cab ride to Petionville, a suburb of Port-au-Prince.

David said, "Everything from our attempts to get into Haiti taught us a lot about what it takes to get into a disaster area. We also got to shadow professional photographers from several big news organizations including: Getty, MSNBC, Miami Herald, and Ebony. The really key people that helped us out were Andre Chung, a freelance photojournalist from Baltimore; Carl Juste, a photographer for the Miami Herald; and Dudley Brooks the head photographer for Ebony magazine. Chung was our travel companion. He was with us from

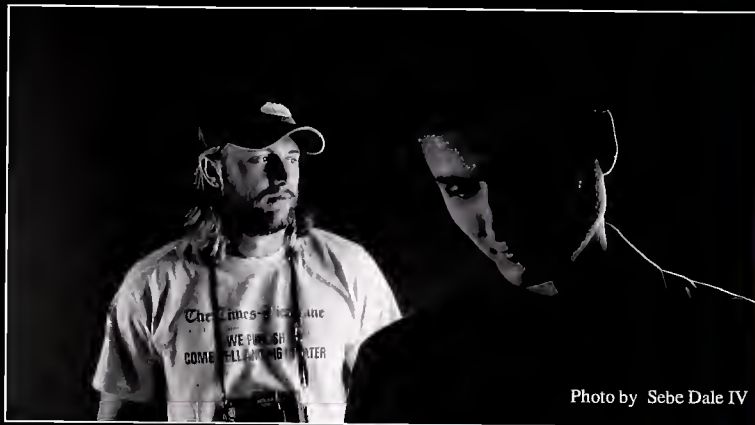


Photo by Sebe Dale IV

Miami all the way into Port-Au-Prince. Juste helped us get a safe place to stay in the hotel where a lot of journalists were staying."

"Brooks kept us fed—knowing that we were broke after the travel expenses. All of them taught us a lot about the working side of photojournalism. How to get our pictures out to the people who can use them and what to plan for while out in the field."

David and Eli spent about five days in Haiti and a day traveling both ways.

"Aside from the gory truth of a natural disaster I witnessed some of the strongest people I have ever seen. There was a sense of brotherhood in Haiti that I have never seen. People helped each other out even if they did not know each other. I remember our first evening there Eli and I were shooting a search team

looking for survivors in a building. I climbed up on a mound of rubble to get a better angle of the search teams. I started to lose my balance and felt sets of hands grab me to hold me up. It was two Haitian men."

The trip to Haiti has prepared David and Eli both for their future careers in photojournalism and given them hands on experience.

David said, "It has made me more sure of myself and my ability to cover tough situations."

David is trying to find a way back to Haiti once school is out. "The problems Haiti will have from this will last for years, maybe even tens of years. I hope the coverage doesn't loosen until Haiti is rebuilt. They had a lot of problems before and maybe this will give them a chance to rebuild a better Haiti."

Story by Samantha Stanford

Top left: Haitians gather at the fence controlled by the American military while waiting for helicopters to deliver aid on Wednesday, January 20.

Photo by Eli Baylis

Top right: Haitians line up by the thousands to receive food and water from the United Nations distribution point in downtown Port-Au-Prince. Surrounded by debris from the 7.0 magnitude earthquake, they have no idea when they will be able to drink and eat without the aid of the UN.

Photo by David N. Brooks

Bottom right: A young boy with only a few clothes vest on watches UN trucks pass and crowds gather at the food and water distribution point in front of the Presidential Palace.

Photo by David N. Brooks

Bottom middle: Privately owned planes and military helicopters drop aid to a small airport in Jacmel, Haiti. Jacmel did not see the destruction Port-Au-Prince saw, but the city was cut off from all forms of aid for days, leading to a series of riots.

Photo by David N. Brooks

Bottom left: On the eighth day since the earthquake that destroyed much of Port-Au-Prince, the roads were still nearly impassable.

Photo by Eli Baylis



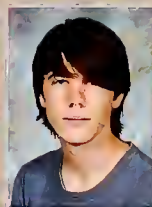
HEADSHOTS:

WELCOME TO THE NEW, OLD, AND FUTURE

Darlene Adams
Kortney Adams
Stephen Adams
Xavier Agee
Stuart Ahel
Brittney Ainsworth
Joseph Alba Mater
Chase Allen

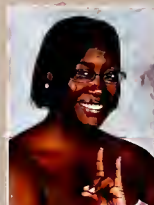


Tyler Allen
Missy Ambrosino
Bentley Anderson
Laura Anderson
Romesha Anderson
Cameron Andrews
Julie Angle
Sheena Antoine

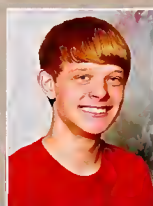




Faye Arca
Bianca Arrington
Jared Arrington
Joshua Arrington
Kirkland Ashely
Timothy Ashmore
Mujahid Assad
Alexandria Atchison



Cory Athey
Jalesha Atkins
Latasha Atkins
Jesff Atkinson
Brittney Atlas
Garrick Aube
Madison Audiffred
Montrell Austin



Sicily Axton
Jennifer Bach
Brittany Bailey
Ellen Bailey
Kacie Bailey
Brandon Baker
Niny Baker
Shamina Baker



Nicole Ballard
Darriell Banks
Ashley Barber
Holly Barber
Allie Barfield
Zachary Barker
David Barnes
James Barnes



Meet Amy Gemelli:

Architectural Engineering: students who declare this major usually do so as freshmen to stay on top of course requirements. The program demands so much outside classroom work on specialized computers that students have their own lab.

This lab is where you'll find Amy Gemelli, one of the few female architectural engineering majors at Southern Miss. "It's always fun the first few days of class, because I'm the only girl out of twenty students."

While her major is deemed a "guy major," she argues that the gender difference will only make her more marketable. "Many people prefer a female's design eye."

The junior credits her father for getting her interested in the sciences. "My dad is an upper level math teacher and I guess that's why I was always drawn to those fields."

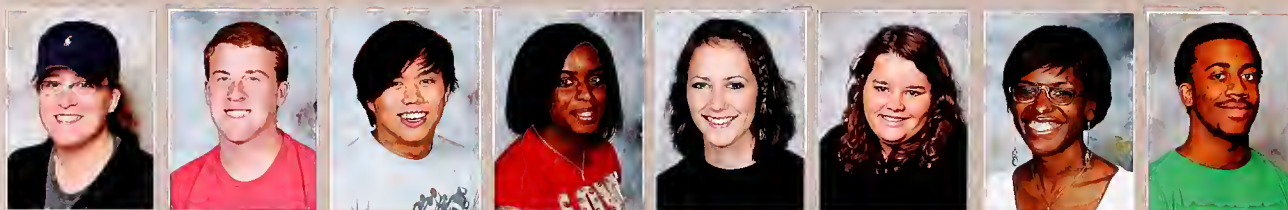
While she does admit her classes have a lower ratio of females, she sees it as a good thing. "Guys won't really sit around and gossip with me, but that forces me to get my work done."

The Bay St. Louis native hopes that with her degree, she can design buildings for clients on the coast. "I want to design on the style of old coast tradition and mix it up with a modern twist. Even though the major I chose is very time consuming, I know it's something I will enjoy as a career."

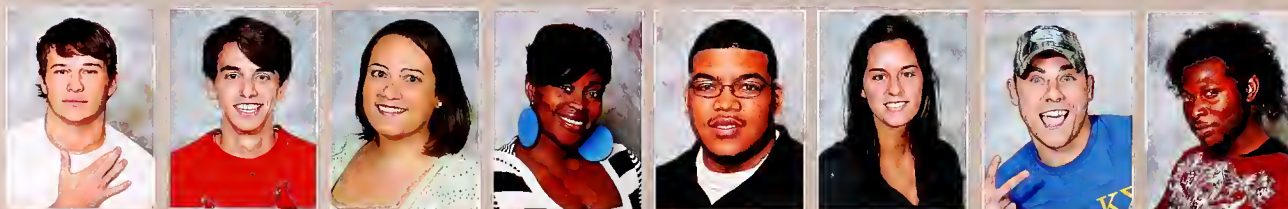
Photo by Freddie Lance Newman
Story by Marie John



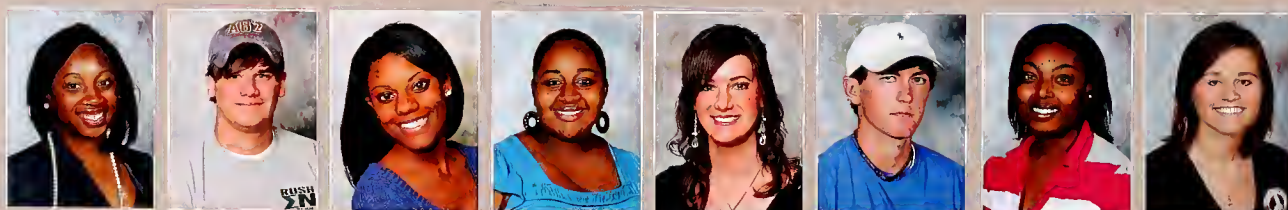
Britta Barnes
 Ashley Barnes-Brown
 Jasmine Barnett
 Yvette Barr
 Hannah Barrett
 Titus Barrett
 Emily Bastin
 Woodreaux Bates



Caroline Baucum
 Zeb Baucum
 Andrew Bautista
 Jocelyn Bays
 Shea Becker
 Lauren Beeson
 Jessica Bell
 Leanthony Bell

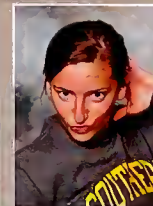
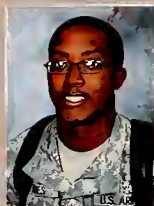


Ridge Benefield
 Alden Bennett
 Laurie Benvenuti
 Amy Bernard
 Jeremy Bew
 Jessica Bienvenu
 Matthew Bill
 Dayla Bivers



Andrea Black
 Rodrick Blackmon
 Treonna Blackston
 Diana Blackston
 Amanda Blair
 Chris Blakeney
 Jessica Bland
 Lacey Blankenship

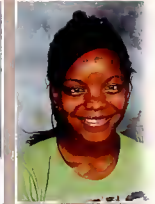
Jasmine Blunt
Jimmy Bodies
Kellye Bolar
Ebony Bolling
Hannah Bolner
Keyanin Bolton
Amber Bond
Bond Bond



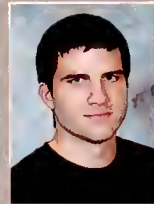
Dangela Bonds
Ilesha Bonner
Shyanna Booker
Holly Boone
Michael Booty
Gillian Borden
Tara Boren
Topher Bostick

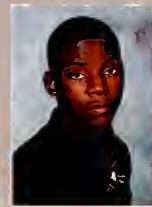


Reilly Bourgeois
Rebecca Bourne
Heather Bourque
Julien Bousquet
Darius Bowie
Ashley Bowler
Julia Bradley
Shannon Bradley

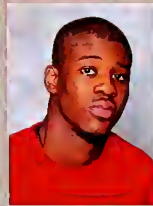
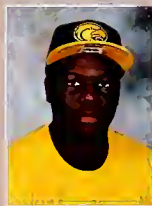


Jonathan Brannan
Jack Branning
Daniel Brauner
Christine Breazeale
Andrew Brennan
Jessica Brewer
Reagan Bridle
Jeremy Britt

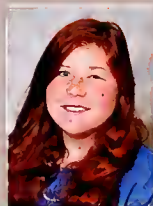




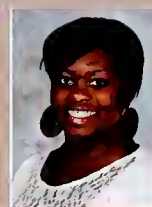
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 Steven Brooks
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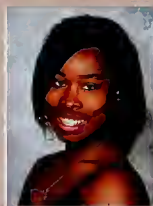


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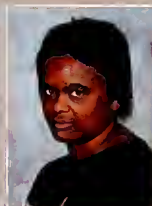


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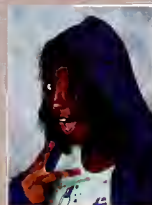
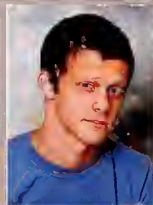
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 Montonia Butler
 Natasha Butler
 Zach Butler
 Frotasha Buxton
 Amanda Byrd
 Shelley Caddell



Hillary Calhoun
 LaKue Calmet Sr
 Sabir Calloway
 Alex Camardelle
 Jonathan Campbell
 Cher Cannon
 Candice Caponis
 Tyler Cargill



Brittany Carnley
 Lacey Carr
 Brandi Carter
 Earnest Carter
 Jonathan Carter
 Madeline Carter
 Mario Carter
 Tangee Carter





Meet Kasey Mitchell:

"Being active on campus is what college is all about," says Kasey Mitchell. While most Southern Miss students average three classes per day, Kasey not only handles a heavy eighteen-hour per week class load, she's also involved in nine campus activities. "it's how I hope to make a difference and leave Southern Miss better than I found it."

The junior management and marketing major from Picayune does admit that being this involved can get a little crazy, but loves it nonetheless. "Some days I look at my planner and I have so many meetings down I can barely decipher them all."

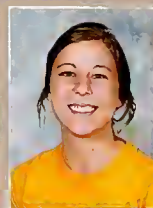
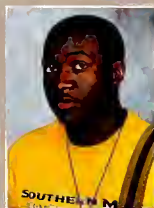
Of her many organizational commitments, one stands out: "My membership in Greek Life has been a blessing since freshmen year...it's the main reason I opened up and began to get more involved." An active Pi Beta Phi member, Kasey has served as chapter president throughout this school year.

Another commitment often filling Kasey's day planner is the Student Government Association. She is currently active in two of the three branches.

Serving as a member of Southern Style, GEWW Crew, Lambda Sigma, Eagle Connection, and Phi Eta Sigma, Kasey's resume is quickly filling as her involvement continues to grow. "I just enjoy being passionate about everything I do...it's addictive."

Photo by Christopher Bostick
Story by Marie John

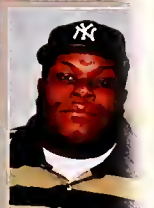
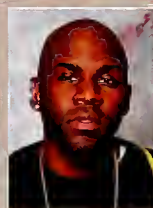
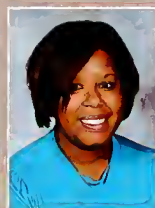
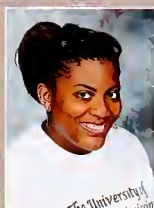
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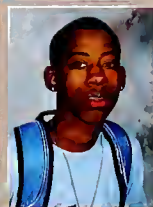
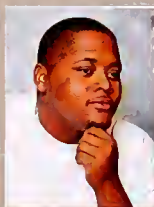
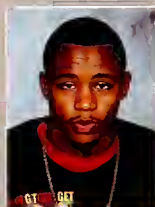
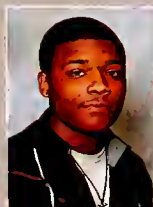
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Kelli Clark
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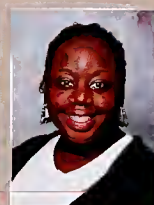




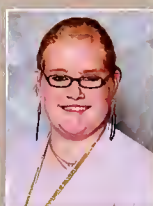
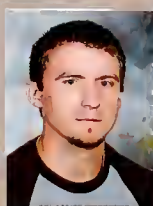
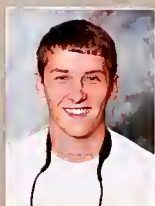
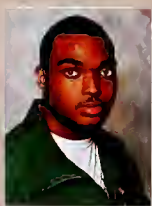
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ShaQuetta Coney
Jasmine Cooley
Matthew Cooley
Zack Cooper



Artisa Cornes
Ashley Cousin
Chadwick Cox
Courtney Cox
Koty Cox
Will Craft
John Crawford
Steve Crosby



Pili Cross
Collin Crowson
Anna Cabbage
Santigous Culpepper
Adrian Curtis
Meryl Dakin
Alexis Dalker
Kayela Danal



Casey Daniels
D'Elisha Dauphinais
Joey Davion
Andrea Davis
Brandon Davis
Briana Davis
Carly Davis
Charles Davis



Meet Big-Al

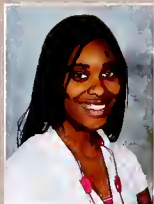
Alan "Big-Al" Wheat is a fifth year senior history licensure major from a little place called Crossroads. Now in his final semester of his undergraduate career, Wheat is spending it as a student teacher. A rock aficionado who prefers Metallica shirts to a suit and tie, his biggest passion is for Southern Miss itself.

"I bled black and gold since diapers" Wheat proclaimed. In 2003, he remembers the football team's victory against TCU. Since that day, he hasn't missed a home game. Working for the Southerner and the Student Prince only fueled his love for sports, giving him opportunities he never imagined. Being able to write about what I love is an amazing experience."

By his junior year, Wheat realized that he needed to temper his dreams with realistic goals, and he chose the path of teaching. "I've always had an innate talent for helping people around me and I love to see that 'click' on someone's face when they finally get it".

In the end, when it is finally time for Big-Al to make his march across that stage, he recalls with a big grin and an infectious laugh that while at Southern Miss, he was blessed enough to have to people help him in every way to succeed. Even though he may have changed since those days back in rocker mode from freshmen year, he's still that "hometown guy from Crossroads."

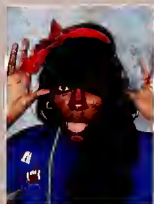
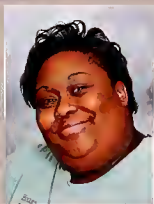
**Photo by Roy Green
Story by Jack Spitz**



DaTiffany Davis
Deonica Davis
Erica Davis
Jasmine Davis
Melissa Davis
Syntori Davis
Tremayne Davis
Terri Dawkins



Reem Dawoud
Lorrin Debenport
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Robert Deming
Chavon Denham
Cassie Dennis

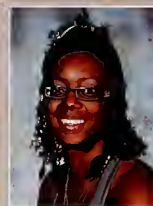


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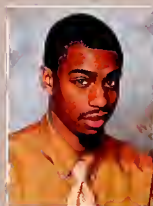
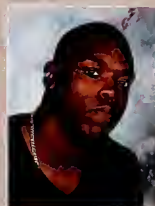


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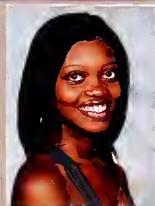
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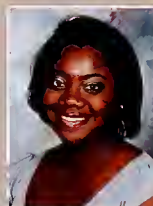
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LaMarquis Duncan
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Justin Dye

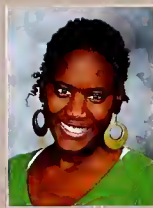


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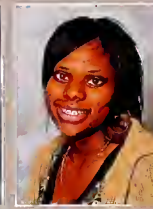


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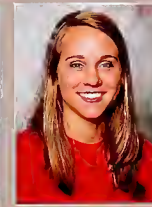
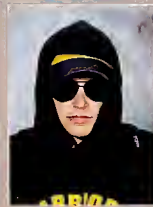




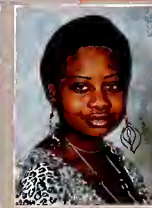
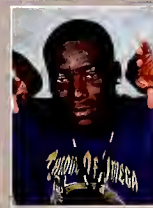
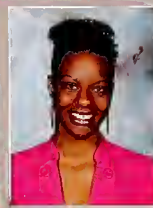
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Santee Ezell
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Howard Farrar
Bailey Faught
Lena Federinko
Chelsea Fenton
TaDaria Fenton

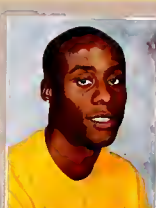


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Seth Flake
Jennifer Flint
Willis Floyd



Madison Follweiler
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Keneshia Forrest
Ashleigh Forster
Darius Fortenberry
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Larry Foster

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Joshua Frazier
Milton Freeman
Ricki Fuller
Avery Fulp
Kimberly Funches



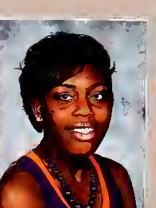
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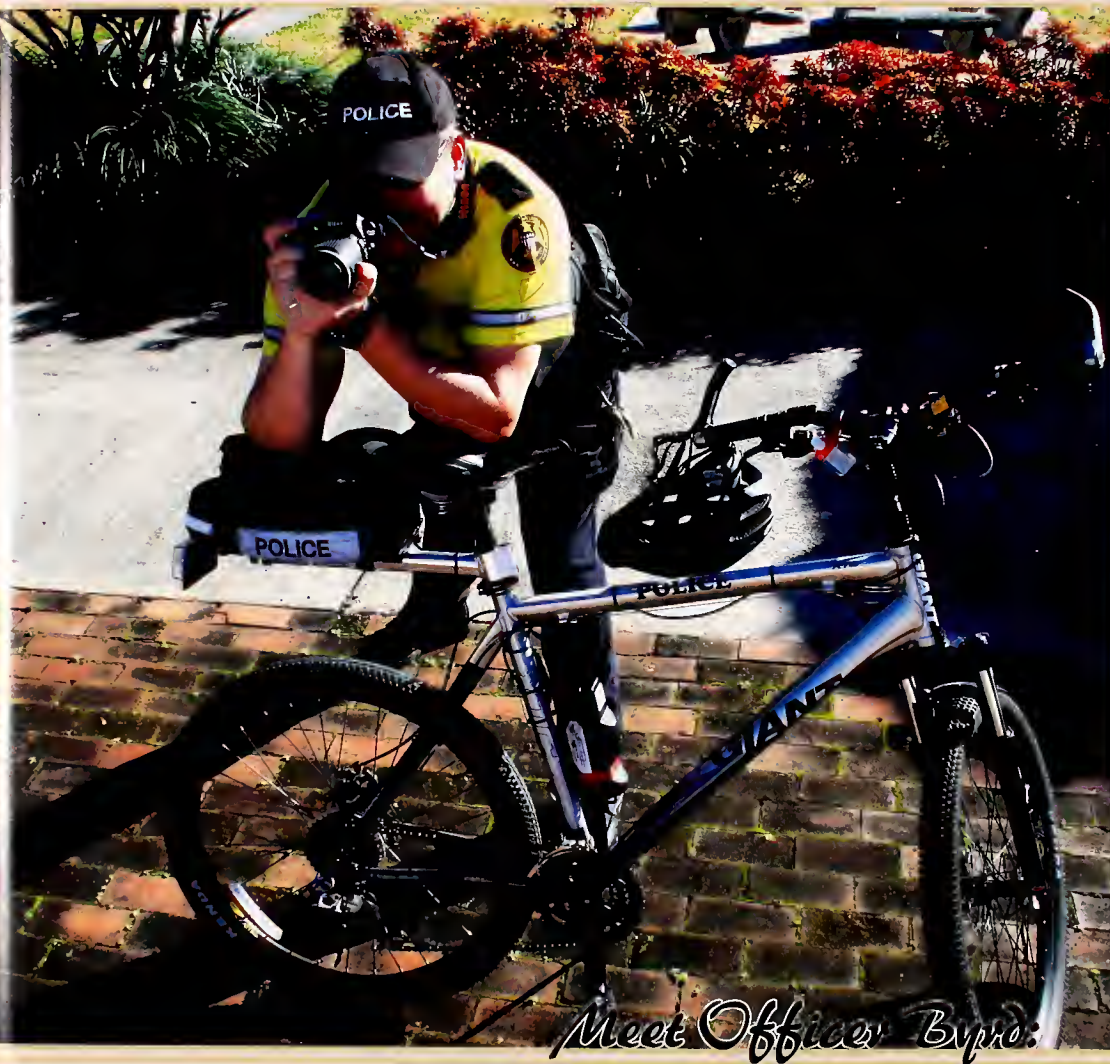


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Mina Ghafarianpoor
Ryan Gibbons
Archie Gibbs
Destinie Gibson
Erin Gibson
Katelynn Gibson



Jason Gibson
Alex Gieger
Challen Gilbert
John Gilbert
Rebecca Gilbert
Kedsee Gill
Elizabeth Gleen
Kara Goll





Meet Officer Byrd:

The life of a typical college student can be hectic. Between classes, homework, time with friends, and work, there isn't much free time. Imagine throwing in a fulltime job, and a family depending on you to provide for and support them. That's the life of Officer David Byrd.

Married, 40, and a father, he works as a campus police officer. David decided to go back to school four years ago when his daughter was born, with the hopes of being able to support both his wife and daughter. He currently works 40-hour work weeks (10 hour days) and is enrolled in 17 hours this semester. While some would expect him to be working on a degree in criminal justice, he is majoring in photojournalism so he has something to fall back on other than law enforcement.

How does he balance school, work, and having a family? "Time management," he said, "sometimes I have to stay at home and work on schoolwork instead of time with my family."

When in class and on duty, he informs the police station and asks them not to contact him unless there is an emergency. "When I'm in a class, I am first and foremost a student, regardless of who the professor is," said David. Fellow students do not always react to David the same way they react to the other students in the class, because he is on duty and therefore required to wear his uniform: "I know it can be intimidating."

After he graduates, David plans to start on his Master's degree. "I'd like to do freelance, and maybe even teach somewhere like a junior college, or maybe even here."

Photo and Story by
Samantha Stanford

Stradford Goms Jr.
 Greg Gonzales
 Chase Gonzalez
 Chalmers Gordon
 Jan Goreem
 Cristina Graham
 Jasmine Graham
 Meghan Graham



Brandi Gray
 Eboni Gray
 Monnette Green
 Elliot Green
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 Terrance Green
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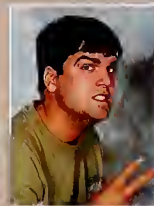
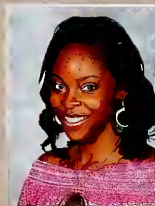
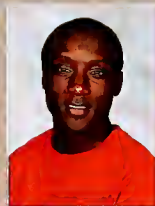
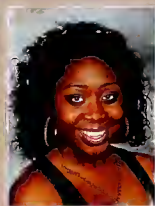


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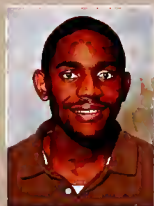
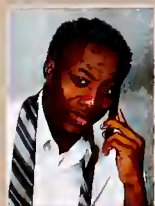


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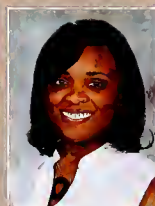




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Chris Harrington



Darryl Harris
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Keshia Harris
Mark Harris
Ricco Harris
Tavron Harrison
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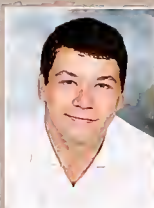


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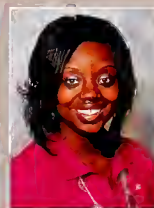
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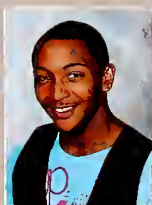
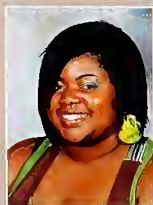
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Lauren Huner
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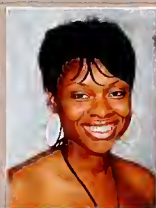
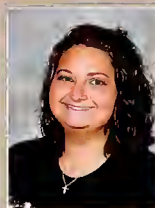


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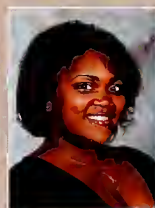
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Marie John
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Ashlen Johnson
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Caitlin Johnson
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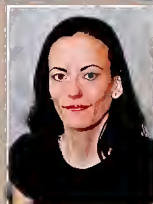


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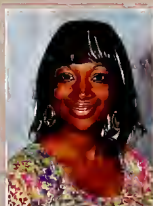
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Tanisha Keller



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Whitney Kennedy
Melissa Kersey
Ashley Kidd
John Kidd



Elizabeth Kiehn
Marie Kimball
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Cordell Kinn
Samantha Kirk
Leslie Kirkup



Steven Kirkup
Kenyatta Knight
Rictavian Knight
Tomoe Knight
Alesha Knox
Stephanie Knox
Kate Kollath
Mandalyn Krebs



Meet Arielle Barrientos:

Arielle Barrientos is not your average freshman. This music education major from Gulfport isn't wasting her free time, she's running a volunteer organization. Strings with Wings, based in Arielle's hometown, is focused on helping at-risk youth, giving them the gift of music.

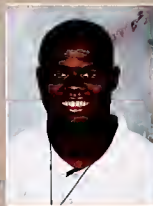
After Hurricane Katrina, she realized that playing the violin helped her to cope. "It's just something about playing that is calming," Arielle says, who has been playing since she seventh grade. "I started out with a passion for learning, and then for teaching when I saw how much joy playing brought to people."

After a mission trip to Saltillo, Mexico, where Arielle interacted with children living in the most basic conditions, Arielle knew what she had to do. "I wanted to bring something into their lives that they normally would never have. Music is such a positive outlet, it has an amazing power to make an individual feel self-worth."

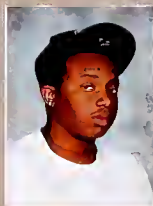
"My first goal was to find ten violins. My second goal was to organize a group and plan for a three week music camp and raise enough money to fund all the equipment needed, which included a puppet workshop, as well as transportation, food, and lodging for the volunteer group." In a few short months, Arielle raised over \$10,000 dollars—\$6,000 over her original goal.

Now that she's a full time student, Arielle continues to organize Strings with Wings via DoSomething.Org. After nearly six years of organizing and volunteering, Strings with Wings now boasts over thirty-five members, has helped more than two thousand children, and has raised over \$22,000.

Photo by Freddie Lance Newman
Story by Marie John



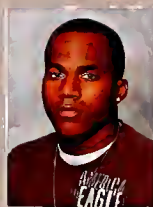
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Christina Le

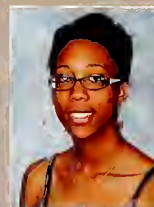


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Marcus Lee
Robert Lee
Zachary Lee
Tiarra LeFlore
Cullen Leist
Brittany Lester
Shanay Lett



Sharketie Leverette
Brittany Lewis
Deidra Lewis
Ebony Lewis
Kendrick Lewis
Robert Lewis
Teresa Lewis
Kari Lieberman

Roman/Lia Light
 Kristina Liles
 Heather/Lee Lingenfelder
 Virginia Little
 Jessica Lloyd
 Michael Lloyd
 Natasha Lloyd
 Beverly Locker



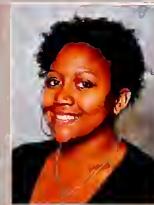
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 Jack Ly
 Antonio Macias

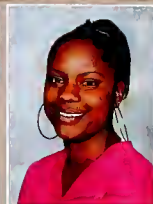


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 Meredith Mangun

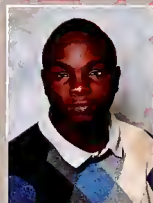
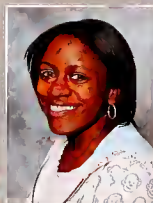


Zach Mansell
 Nicholas Marino
 Chris Marroy
 Emily Marshall
 Antoine Martin
 Ashley Martin
 Ashlynn Martin
 Devon M...





Fel'Wann Martin
Joyce Martinez
Haley Massey
Lauren Matchett
Eric Mathis
Va'Nesha Matthews
Samantha Mauldin
Ashley May



Joycelyn May
Kari May
Karen Mays
Kine McAfee
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Stephen McCay

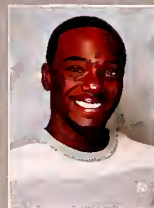


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Chasity McDavis

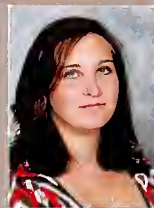
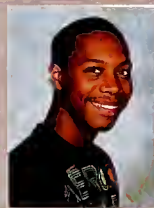


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Jesse McGhee
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Donaven McLaurin
Jessica McLaurin
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Alice McLendon



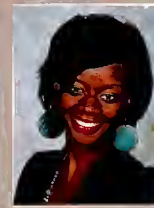
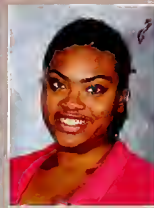
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DeVion McPherson
Dallas Medlin

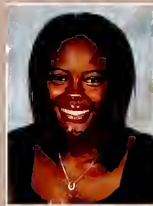
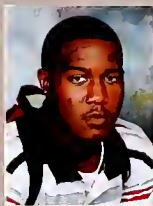


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Robert Merkosky
Melissa Erin Merritt
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Cedric Michez
Bernardo Miethe
Bernasha Miller
Gabrielle Miller
Katherine Miller
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Lena Mills

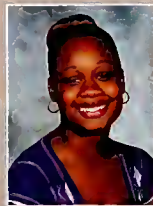




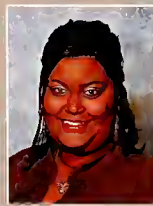
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Kathy Minor
Shaundari Minor
Lizzy Misko
Betsy Mitchell



Bryon Mitchell
Kasey Mitchell
Kelsey Mitchell
Samantha Mitchell
Carlos Moffett
Brion Monroe
James Montgomery
Ian Moore



Jeremy Moore
Jordan Moore
Madison Moore
Shirlena Moore
Whitney Moore
Mack Moore III
Tiarra Moore
Cristina Mora



Karly Moran
Bianca Morris
Gabrielle Morris
Maria Morris
Meghan Morris
Mirreka Morris
Mercer Morrison
Ashley Moses

Ryan Montley
John Mullins
Adrienne Murphy
Madison Murphy
Lance Murray
Patrick Murray
James Myers
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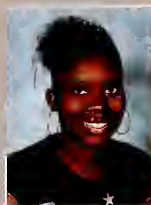


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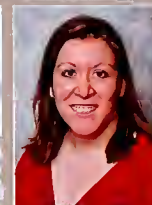
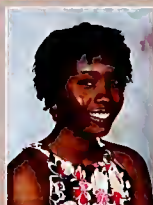


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Carlos Nine
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Justin Nolen
Marcus Norwood Jr.
Albert Nosser

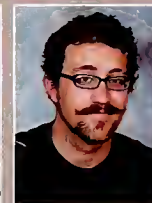
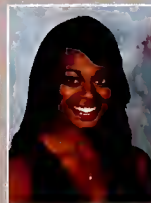




Apryl Null
Mollie Nunez
Marquia Nunnery
William Nunnery II
Natalie Oalmann
Jana Odom
Kristen O'Flarity
Callie O'Hear



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Kyndal Owens

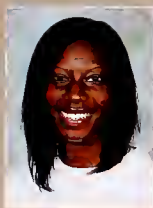


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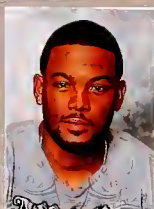


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Tandra Patterson

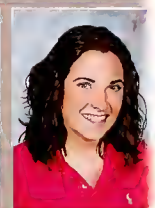
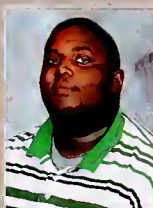
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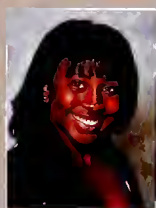
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Mary Perry
Natriez Peterson
Tyler Peterson
Rodney Pevy
James Phillips



Schawanda Pierre
Andrew Pittman
Ed Pittman
Omari Pittman
Sara-Victoria Place
Matthew Planchard
Lyndsay Pleas
Kathryn Plunkett



Sara Plunkett
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Avis Pope
Chelsie Pope
Krystal Porter
Timothy Porter
Zuna Portillo-Rodríguez
James Powers





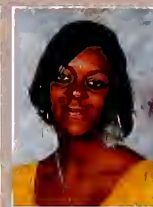
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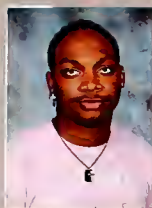


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Jade Reed-Kreis
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Nicki Relan
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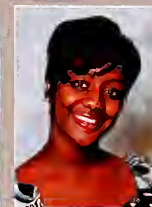


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AnnClaire Reynolds
Ashton Reynolds
Cristin Reynolds
Hannah Rice
Amanda Richard

Brittany Richardson
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 Raqueem Richmond
 Wil Richmond
 Aleis Riddle
 Ambere Riggs
 Becky Riley
 Hazel Riley



James Riley II
 Avery Rimpson
 Chase Robbins
 Jessica Roberts
 Katelin Roberts
 Nathan Roberts
 Brittany Robinson
 Demetrius Robinson



J.R. Robinson
 Kal Robinson
 Kakista Robinson
 Lakeisha Robinson
 Lareisha Robinson
 Vaneshea Robinson
 David Rodgers
 Jefferson Rogers



Joshua Rogers
 Rachel Rogers
 Mark Romans
 Rachel Ross
 Titiana Ross
 Elizabeth Rothwell
 Daniel Roy
 Joseph Roy





Meet Jon Buchanan:

Journeys are the fun part in life, and usually no one knows where life will take them. Four years ago, Jon Buchanan was fresh out of high school and eager to do something with his life. Jon's father went to Mississippi State University, but Jon didn't follow in his footsteps. After visiting the Southern Miss campus on Black and Gold Day, Jon knew this was the place for him.

A senior biological science major, Jon's passion directed him towards medicine. Already accepted to the University Medical Center in Jackson, Buchanan hopes to be a doctor in either sports medicine or family practice.

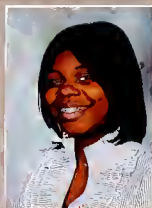
What sets Jon apart from most other would-be doctors, then, is his combination of hobbies: he is both a rabid football fan and an improv comedian. "Mixing jokes with organic chemistry is a typical day for me," says John.

Like many other freshmen, John came to Southern Miss looking for friends, and immediately became interested in a group on campus called the "Stage Monkeys." "I was introverted when I first arrived at Southern Miss, but they really gave me the outlet to express myself and come out of my shell." Now that he has played the role of 'funny man on campus' for the past four years, he now plans to make a difference in the medical field."

"If there is anything you want to try, don't think about it, just do it. Those split second decisions will turn out to be the ones that are most enjoyable."

Photo by JaVocko Harris
Story by Erick Weeks

Paige Ruff
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Renzo Ruiz
Kristen Russell
Jamie Lynn Russell
Stephanie Russum
Katrina Rutledge
Kayla Rutledge



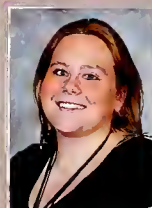
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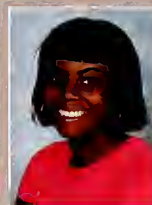
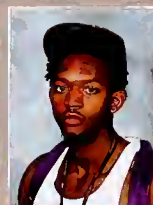
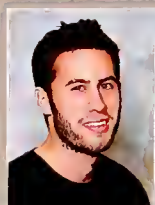


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Austin Scoggin

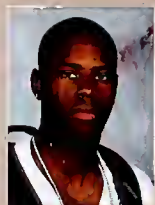


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Rebecca Seale
Amanda Self
Ajudena Serrano
Shannon Shannon





Christian Sheau
Kayla Shedd
Bess Sheffield
Greg Shelby
Kristi Shelby
LaJoyia Shelby
Ryann Shepherd
Ashley Sherrard



Kevin Shipp
Randy Shoemake
Emilee Shuler
Brandi Silas
Katherine Simmons
Danielle Simning
Devin Simpson
Jason Simpson



Chadrick Sims
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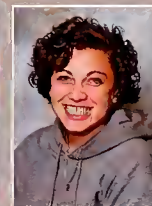


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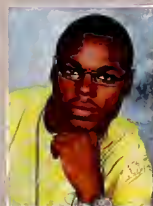
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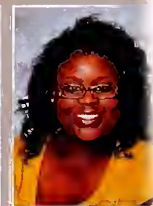
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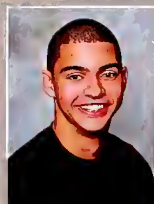


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Jasper Spires
John Spitz
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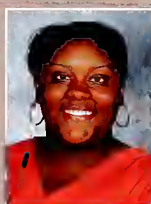




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 Shulondra Stokes
 Valeria Stovali



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 Mariah Stringer
 Carol Strohmets
 Tomeka Strowder
 Chris Strunk
 Cody Stuart
 Ashley Stubblefield



Kyle Sullivan
 Richard Sullivan
 LaQuita Sumrall
 Trey Suttle
 Benjamin Sutton
 Timothy Sutton
 Michael Swords
 Anna-Colby Tanner



Tiffany Tanner
 Tristan Tanner
 Wallace Tardy
 Alonte Tate
 Ashley Tate
 Chelsee Tate
 Terry Tay Jr.
 Alyssa Taylor



Meet Philip Gansz:

Philip Gansz, a student from the Long Beach campus of Southern Miss, is certainly unique. Gansz has already had two careers and is working to establishing a third.

In his 20s, he worked as a social worker dealing with adolescents. Later, Gansz worked as captain on yachts traveling around the United States and the Bahamas, specializing in sport fishing while working for various celebrities. Among these were Johnny Carson, Brook Shields, and Mariah Carey.

While captaining boats, he took a job training developmentally disabled youths to work on boats like the ones he captained.

"When I left, I had a client working in every county," he said.

A few years ago however, he was diagnosed with a debilitating disease of the spine which caused him to rethink his career plans. He could no longer work aboard a ship.

He decided that after everything that had been given to him throughout the years, he wanted to do something to instill in others the love of learning and thirst for knowledge that had accompanied him throughout his various career moves.

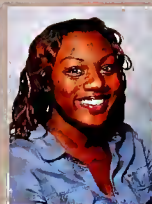
"I wanted to give back," said Gansz. "I went to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the state of Mississippi, and the lady said, 'it looks to me like the only job is...you could be a teacher.'"

It was at this point that he decided to go back to school to become a history teacher. Gansz graduated with a degree in history in December and is currently working to get into grad school in history here at Southern Miss.

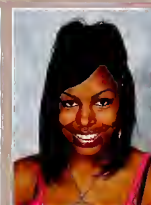
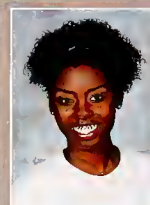
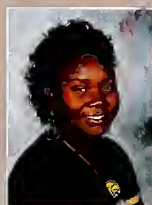
**Photo by Samantha M. Light
Story by Marika Smith**



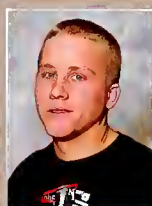
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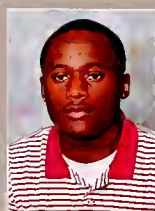


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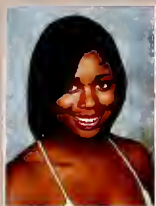


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Kristen Tuele
Lauren Turcotte
Lauren Tureaud
Gabriella Turner
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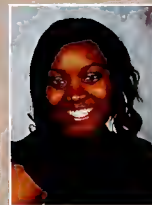
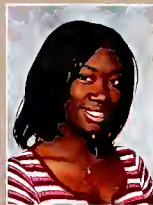


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Davis Verno
Mosjorie Vitiello

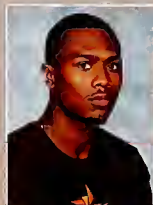
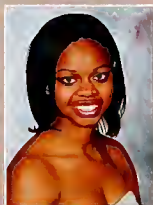
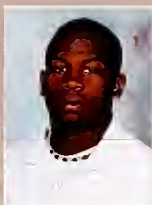


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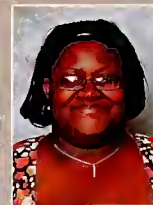
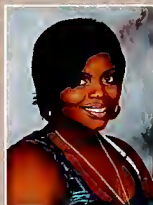




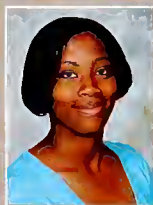
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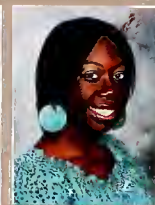
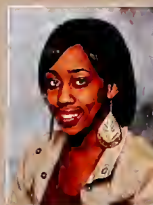


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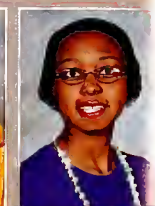
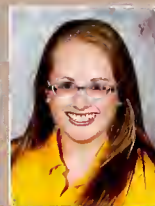


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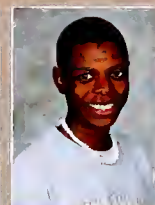
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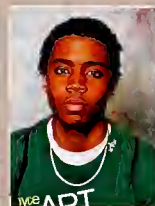
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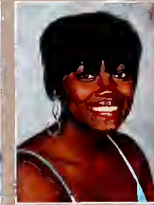
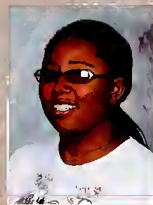


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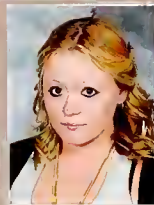




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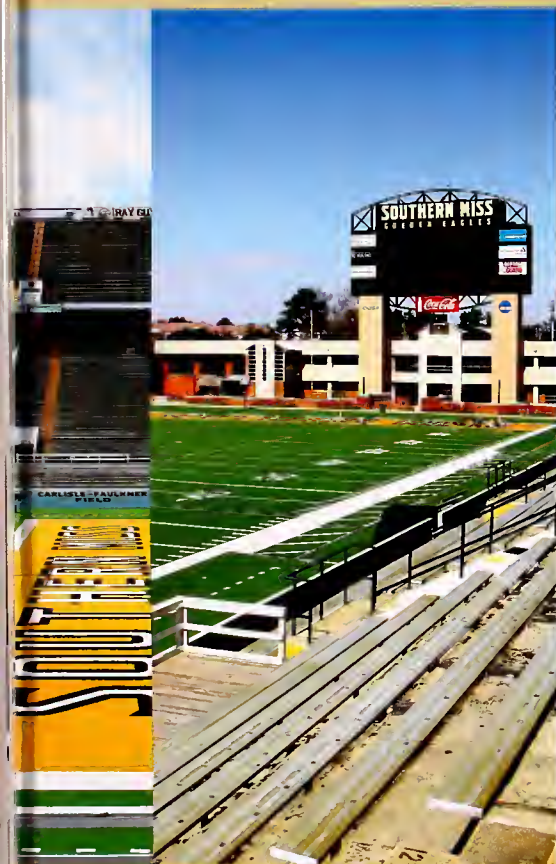


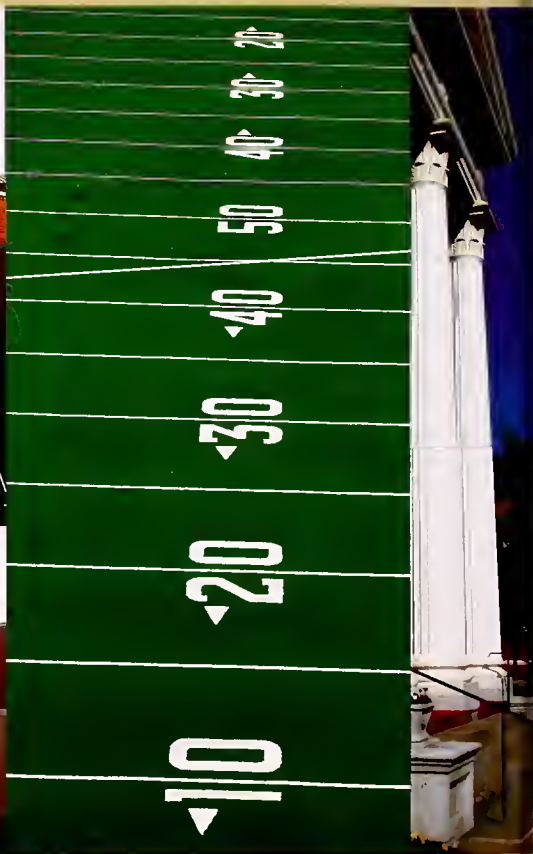
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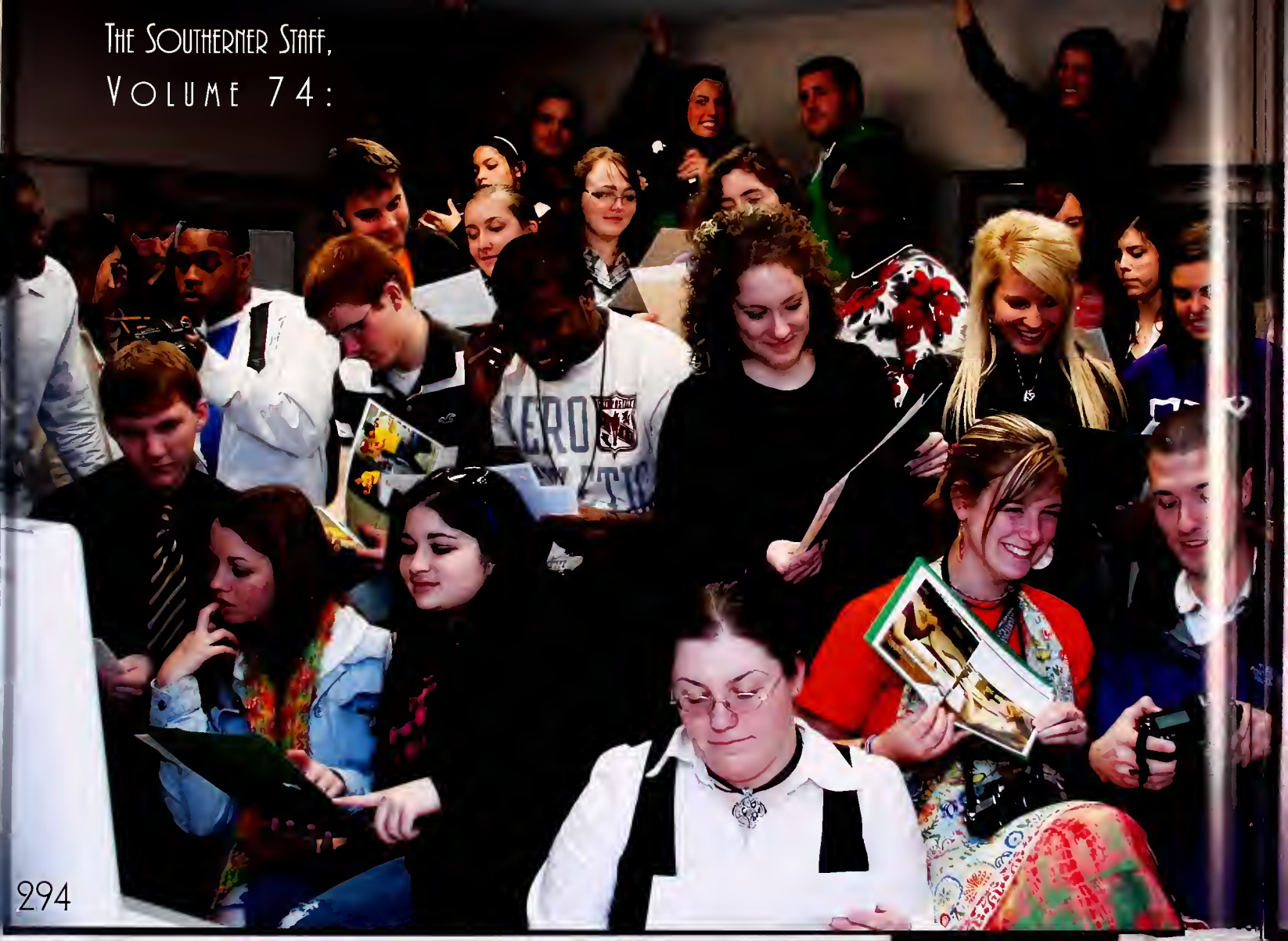




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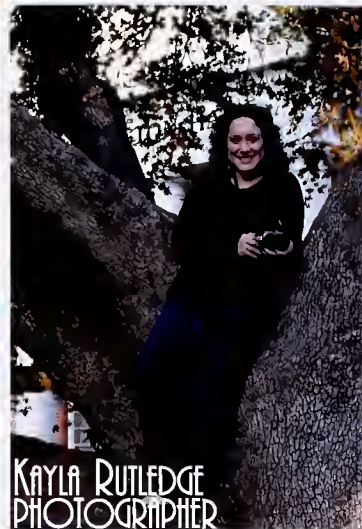




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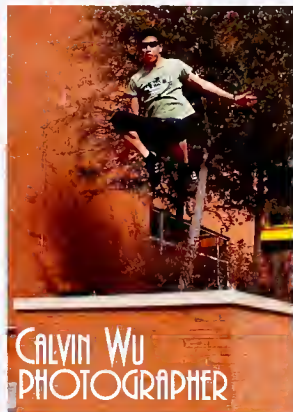


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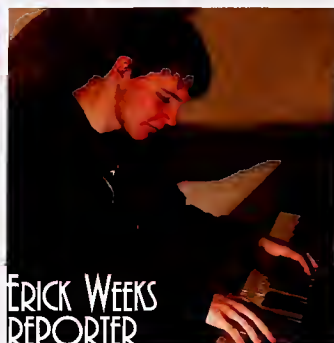
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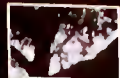


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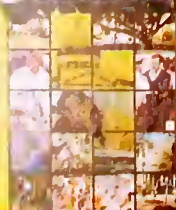
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The Southerner

Uncovered

What is the measure and importance of a yearbook?

In examining past volumes, one can see the ebb and flow of organizations as they are created and dissolved. Names attached to pictures read more like a map to today's student: Cook, Walker, McLemore, Bennett, Marsh. All are preserved within the pages of the Southerner. Flip open any given volume, and you can see the campus as it was, and together all seventy-four volumes (the numbering is, perhaps, a bit contested) form the story of Southern Miss, detailing the rise of buildings, organizations, traditions, and more.

The yearbook at Southern Miss began its life in 1914 as the Neka Camon, a Native American word translated as "the New Spirit." For the first years of its production, the Neka Camon certainly wasn't a yearbook in the modern sense: put out by and for the seniors of the "Diploma Class" of a given year, each edition featured headshots, biographies, and in one case, health care papers written by those seniors. Common features also included a class history detailing the difficulties that class faced and, strangest of all, a class prophecy offering up the future of senior class officers.

Briefly interrupted from production during the Great Depression, the book returned in 1940 as the Southerner in celebration of the school's new name, Mississippi Southern College. Published annually ever since, the book is managed, staffed, and edited by an all-student staff with the help of a graduate student and the guidance of a faculty advisor.

The Southerner differs from many other university yearbooks in so far as it is placed under the aegis of Student Activities rather than publications. In doing this, the stated mission of the Southerner was explicitly to reflect and commemorate the actual life and times of the students of the University of Southern Mississippi.

At some point during its history, the Southerner acquired an additional title as Rho Gamma, a society for yearbook staff members and yearbook supporters. While this second name identity has fallen into disuse, it is still part of the Southerner's charter and in many ways serves the book's mission in galvanizing and memorializing the lives of diverse students.

Story by Elliott Freeman
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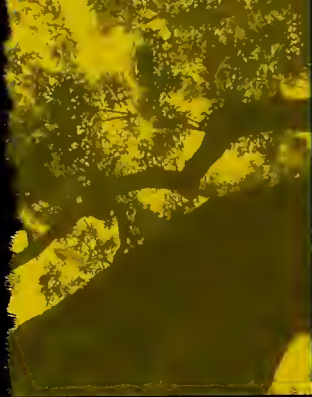
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The Southerner staff can be reached at the University of Southern Mississippi, 118 College Drive, Box #5048, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 39406.

The 2009-2010 Southern Staff included over thirty five student members, one graduate assistant, and a faculty advisor. The yearbook is an original production of the staff created with the Adobe Creative Suite and Microsoft Word 2008 for Mac.

The yearbook was printed by Friesens Printers in Altona, Manitoba in Canada.

Odia Reimer and Carey Kehler served as service specialists in the production of this book.

Press run was 2,000 copies made up of 320 pages on 40 flats. Trim size was 12 by 9. The book was printed in process color with a Smyth sewn binding. Our cover, an original production of the staff, is covered in Crystalline Matte with embossing. Gold foil stamping is on the front cover. The text stock is Sterling Ultra 80lb paper. Sterling Ultra is produced in the United States

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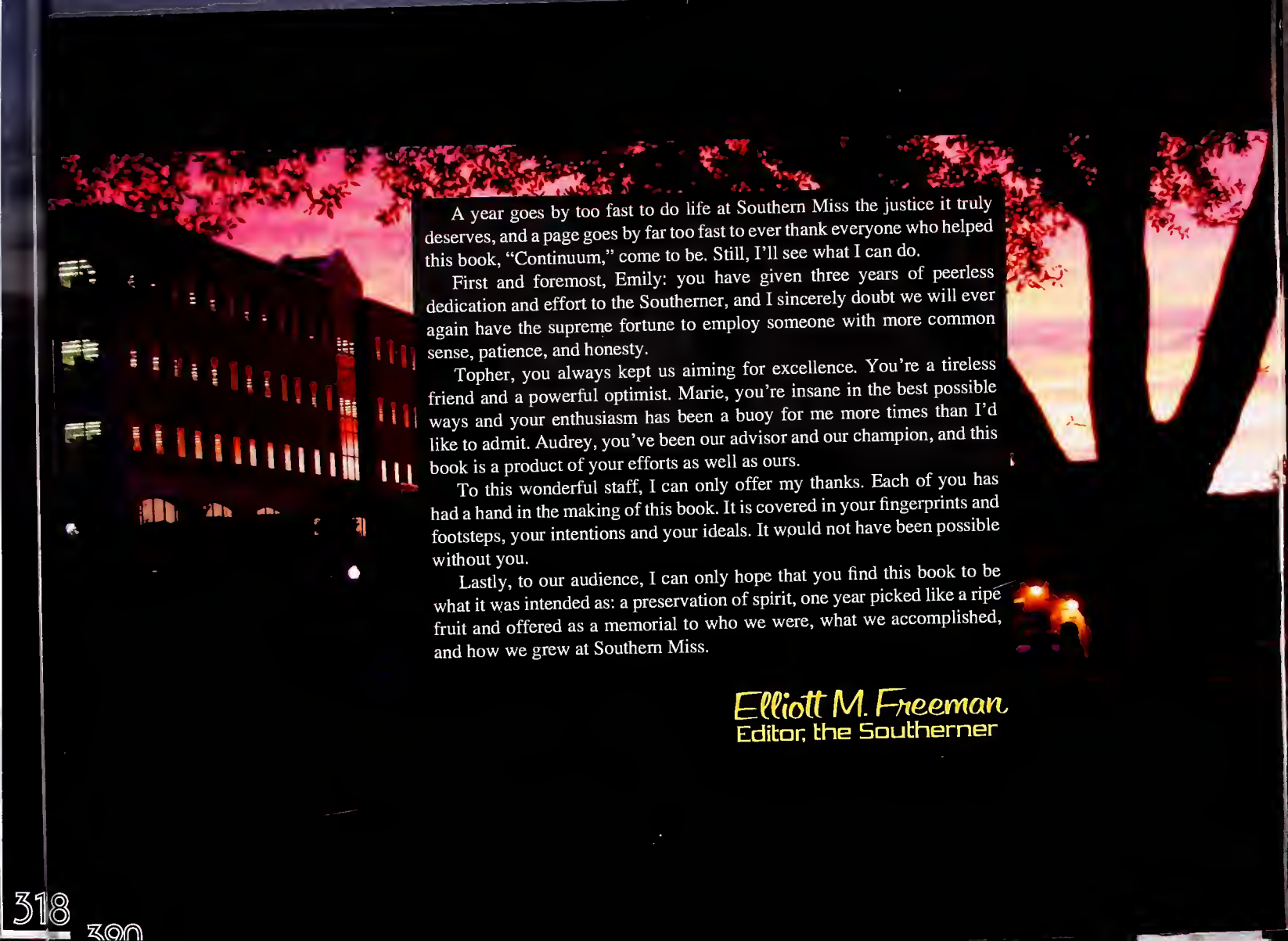
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All photographs were taken by the Southerner staff, USM Photo Services, or were submitted by USM students, departments, or organizations.

Yearbooks were delivered and distributed prior to USM graduation on May 15th, 2010. Annuals are free of charge for all fulltime undergraduate students.

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A year goes by too fast to do life at Southern Miss the justice it truly deserves, and a page goes by far too fast to ever thank everyone who helped this book, "Continuum," come to be. Still, I'll see what I can do.

First and foremost, Emily: you have given three years of peerless dedication and effort to the Southerner, and I sincerely doubt we will ever again have the supreme fortune to employ someone with more common sense, patience, and honesty.

Topher, you always kept us aiming for excellence. You're a tireless friend and a powerful optimist. Marie, you're insane in the best possible ways and your enthusiasm has been a buoy for me more times than I'd like to admit. Audrey, you've been our advisor and our champion, and this book is a product of your efforts as well as ours.

To this wonderful staff, I can only offer my thanks. Each of you has had a hand in the making of this book. It is covered in your fingerprints and footsteps, your intentions and your ideals. It would not have been possible without you.

Lastly, to our audience, I can only hope that you find this book to be what it was intended as: a preservation of spirit, one year picked like a ripe fruit and offered as a memorial to who we were, what we accomplished, and how we grew at Southern Miss.

Elliott M. Freeman
Editor, the Southerner





CONTINUUM

A STRAIGHT LINE, A LINEAR PROGRESSION: IT'S MOVEMENT, THE WORLD STILL IN PROGRESS AS WHAT COULD BE BECOMES WHAT IS.